# COUNTRY LIFE

# CLASSIFIED ANNOUNCEMENTS

2/- per line (min. 3 lines) Box Fee 1/6

## PERSONAL

BACHELOR (35), just released after four years active service abroad, wishes to become Pupil on modern farm.—Box 325.

EXCLUSIVE Country Home offered gentleman in Historical Manor House. Near Conway Valley. Rough shooting, dogs welcomed. Best farm produce.—PENNANT HALL, Eglwys Bach, Tal-y-Cafn, North Wales.

KENYA. If you think of settling in Kenya communicate with us, giving details of your requirements. The Highlands are healthy and offer Residential Farm Lands, Big Game and Bird Shooting, Polo and Fishing. Excellent bathing and surfing at the coast. References: National Bank of India Ltd., Bishopsgate, E.C.; Standard Bank of South Africa Ltd., 10, Clements Lane, E.C.; Barclays Bank (D. C. & O.), Circus Place, E.C.; The East Africa Office, Grand Buildings, Trafalgar Square, W.C.2. Over 30 years' residence in the Colony.—WHEELOCK & COATES, Box 883, Nairobi, Kenya.

MAJOR, 34, demobilised, married, colonial farming experience, desiring improve knowledge English conditions on pedigree dairy farm with mechanised arable, offers services in return modern furnished cottage and token wage. Hard worker. Southern Counties preferred. Other suggestions welcomed, such as live in city owner's farmhouse, assist management farm, and accommodate owner weekends. Personal interview.—Box 332.

MUSIC in Home or Village. 3½ Violins (one English 1850, one Italian old, one damaged, one child's), Viola (French 1780), 'Cello (Dutch old), with bows and cases. Fine old Schiedmayer Grand Piano. Collection Solos, Duos, Piano and String Trios and Quartettes. Stands. Price £350. No dealers. Would follow to help form new Group if mutually agreeable.—Box 337.

WOLVERHAMPTON HOLIDAYS-AT-HOME. Horse Show at Bantock Park (entrance Finchfield Road), Saturday, August 10, 1946. First event 10 a.m. Hunters, Draught Horses, Brood Mares, Hacks, Hackneys, Driving Classes, Children's Ponies, Jumping and Arabs. Admission 1/- by ticket or 1/6 at the gate; children 1/-. Seating (extra) for 1,000, 10/6, 7/6, 5/- according to position (including admission to ground).—For all particulars apply to ORGANISING SECRETARY, Holidays at Home, Town Hall, Wolverhampton.

WANTED by retired Gentleman (widower), Sitting Room and Bedroom and occasionally second bedroom; must be pleasantly located near small town and sea in south of England, New Forest, or Dorset preferred; good cooking essential. In replying, state terms, what amenities such as golf, fishing, garage accommodation, etc., are available in the district.—Box 339.

## MISCELLANEOUS

TARPAULINS, ex railway, 20 x 12 ft., 65/-; 14 x 10, 32/6; 10 x 7, 16/6. Very strong Cord Netting, 18 x 18 ft., suitable for sports, poultry, gardeners, etc., 11/- each. Wind Screens, for cattle shows, etc., soiled, 30 x 6 ft., linen, fitted with 7 metal poles, guy ropes, etc., £5 each. Gardening mitts, 1/3 pair, dozen 12/6. Strong white Duck Cloth Bags, 20 in. wide, 12 in. deep, 1/9 each, dozen 18/-.—BATLEY & CO., Stockport.

## FOR SALE

A COUNTRY HALL large Collection of Old Masters' Paintings, all schools. Moderately priced.—List, etc., Box 329.

A GEORGE II small plain Coffee Pot, Cream Pitcher, and square Salver, and some other fine Period Silver at reasonable prices. Approval.—LIEUT.-COL. STEWART, Wingham Place, Rochester.

ANTIQUE SILVER, clear markings, ½ doz. Hanoverian Soup Spoons, £12; Ladle, 4 gns.; Gravy Spoon, 3 gns. Seen Putney.—Box 336.

ARCHIBALD THORBURN'S five life-size water-colour drawings of the British Game Birds, Pheasant, Grouse, Partridge, Woodcock and Snipe; Beautifully framed. View in London by appointment. Also Walnut Antique Secretaire, Antique Dutch Cupboard, and some smaller pieces on view in the Guildford area.—RUDD, Stonelands, Bramley, Surrey.

BEAUTIFUL Oxydised Silver/Gold Brocade, 6 yds., 36 in. wide, make magnificent Dinner Dress, £30 or near offer.—Box 330.

CHURN STANDS, made from Government surplus equipment. All steel and will last years. Painted dark green, look natural in any surroundings. Greatly facilitate loading and unloading. Prices from £4/15/-. Illustrated brochure on request.—JOHN CHAPMAN & SON, Povey Cross, Horley, Surrey.

HARDY "Palakona" de Luxe split-cane Trout Rod, 8 ft. 6 in., two tops, canvas and aluminium cases. New condition. £24 or offer.—Write 114, Marsham Court, London, S.W.1.

HEADSTONES, RECUMBENT STONES, CROSSES, MEMORIAL TABLETS, etc., designed by well-known Sculptors for erection in any part. Incised Roman lettering. Sketch designs prepared free. Illustrated Book on Memorials, 7/6 post free, or on loan from the Secretary. SCULPTURED MEMORIALS, 67, Ebury Street, London, S.W.1. Tel.: Sloane 6549.

GENTLEMAN'S red/brown Tweed Overcoat, raglan pre-war tweed, £15.—Box 334.

GENT'S 18c. Gold Half Hunter, London made watch, price £40. Gent's 9c. Gold Wrist Watch price £17/10/-. Gent's Pocket Alarm Watch, price £6/12/6.—C. W. NELSON, 23, St. Vincent's Road, Westcliff, Essex.

GOLF. Lady's Matched Set (6), stainless steel, as new, with hooded bag; 12 unwrapped Dunlop Balls. Seen Folkestone.—Box 333.

LENGTH of pre-war Harris Tweed, light blue with orange line, 30 in. wide by 6¼ yards long, £12. Length of blue and white striped Cotton, 34½ in. wide by 4 yards, £4.—Box 328.

MINIATURES painted on ivory from photographs by Exhibitor R.A. Moderate fee. Specimens sent.—C. J., Dacre House, Chorley Road, Parbold, Lancs.

SOCKS, beautiful thick, hand-knitted Scotch pre-war wool, 12/6; long leg, 15/-.—Box 335.

SOLID LEATHER TENNIS BAG and two Racket Frames, good condition, £5.—SHEPPARD, Mill Cottage, Hornchurch.

STAMPS. Big range of Georgian Colonials, many scarce, all 1d. each, appro.—CHEESEMAN, 16, Addiscombe Road, Watford.

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MODERN LIGHTING SETS ready for use. Secondhand 21-h.p. Diesel Set by Tangye, Vee belt driving 12 k.w. Alternator by Verity, 400 volts, 3-phase, 50 cycles, complete. Unused 14-h.p. Diesel Set by Lister, radiator fan cooled, direct coupled to 7½ k.w. 230 volt D.C. Generator. Latest type 8-h.p. Diesel Set by Blackstone, Vee belt driving 5 k.v.a. Alternator by Stamford Electric Co., 230 volts, single phase, 50 cycles. Unused 5-h.p. Diesel Set by Ruston, direct coupled to 2½ k.w. Alternator, 210 volts, single phase, 50 cycles. Quotations with full specifications on application to: GEORGE COHEN SONS & CO., LTD., 88, Wood Lane, London, W.12.

TWEED, 8½ yds. soft, thick fawn mixture, single width; no coupons; £14 or near offer.—Apply Box 327.

TWO Wardrobe Cabin Trunks, fitted drawers, etc. Lady's 40 x 22 x 14, gent's 40 x 22 x 18, very little used. Best offer over £20 each.—A. E. RUSSELL, 17, Boyn Hill Avenue, Maidenhead.

## WANTED

APPAREL. Highest prices returned for discarded Lounge Suits, Overcoats, Furs, Clothing of all kinds.—Private owners may send with safety to Dept. C.L., JOHNSON, DYMOND AND SON, LTD., Auctioneers (Est. 1793), 24-26, Great Queen Street, London, W.C.2.

A COURTEOUS RECEPTION is accorded to callers by FREDK. D. MELLER, LTD., 295, Oxford Street, W.1, who urgently require good quality Paste, Marcasite, Victorian and Fancy Jewellery; Cultured and Imitation Pearls, Cameo Brooches, Vinaigrettes, etc. Highest prices paid. New goods are being made again, so sell NOW your unwanted jewellery before the demand ceases. Call or send registered post stating price required. Cash or offer by return.

BENTLEY OR ROLLS-ROYCE SALOON urgently required.—LIONEL H. PUGH, 13, Brooks Mews, W.1. Mayfair 4433.

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CARPETS AND RUGS of distinction purchased. Best prices given.—PEREZ, Carpet Specialists, 168, Brompton Road, S.W.3. Ken. 9878. (Between Harrods and Brompton Oratory) and 97, New Bond Street, W.1. MAYfair 7008.

EVENING DRESS and Double-breasted Dinner Jacket, height 6 ft. 1 in., chest measurement 40 in., normal build. Dinner jacket in midnight blue preferred, but black would do.—Box No. D4250, W. H. SMITH & SONS, LTD., Manchester 3.

JODHPURS for child, waist 26-28 ins.—Reply to PRITT, Skilmans Hill, Southwold, Suffolk.

MISSES MANN AND SHACKLETON pay high prices for Linen, Curtains, Blankets, etc., Silver and Plated goods. Jewellery of every description, also Ladies', Gentlemen's and Children's discarded or misfit garments and Furs. Offer or cheque by return for consignment sent. Est. 1860.—FERN HOUSE, Norbiton, Surrey.

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WANTED to purchase for cash, Rolls Royce and Bentley Cars, Limousines and other makes in good condition.—H. S. MEAD, Altwood Garage, Altwood Road, Maidenhead. Telephone: Littlewick Green 70.

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GIRLS' SCHOOL YEAR BOOK. Official book of the Association of Head Mistresses. Parents seeking information about Public Schools and Careers should consult the above. Price 10/6, by post 11/1.—Booksellers, or DEANE, 31, Museum Street, London, W.C.1.

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MOYNS PARK RESIDENTIAL RIDING SCHOOL, Birdbrook, Essex. Telephone: Steeple Bumpstead 36. Expert instruction in equitation and horsemanship. Long and short courses.—*Chief Instructor: C. COOMBES*, late Instructor, Equitation School, Weedon.

SHORT STORY WRITING. Send 2½d. for "Stories that Sell To-day" (a special bulletin) and prospectus of world-famous course.—REGENT INSTITUTE (195A), Palace Gate, W.8.

THE TRIANGLE Secretarial College. South Molton Street, W.1. May. 5306-8. Residential Branch: St. Huberts, Gerrards Cross. Fulmer 256.

## "COUNTRY LIFE" COPIES

**For Sale**

"COUNTRY LIFE" Copies for Sale: 28 for 1944, 34 for 1945. Half price.—Box 331.

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AN ATTRACTIVE HOLIDAY in beautiful West Wight. THE OSBORNE PRIVATE HOTEL, Freshwater Bay, Isle of Wight, offers hospitality, bathing, boating, fishing, golf and excellent food. Garage. Terms from 5 to 6½ gns. per week. Tel.: Freshwater 236.

BEAUTY OF LIVING: In 16th-century Manor. Lovely rooms and bathrooms; central heat. Cotswold surroundings, games and swimming; Danish-French-English dishes in ancient dining hall; attentive host.—WESTON MANOR, Weston-on-the-Green, Oxon. Bletchington 60.

BEACON HOUSE HOTEL, Undercliff, St. Leonards-on-Sea. Sunny, sheltered position on front. Shops 1 min., station 5 mins., good golf near. Medicinal and Turkish baths. H. and c. in all bedrooms. Special winter term, Oct.-March, 4½—5½ gns. Tel.: Hastings 1174.

CORNISH RIVIERA, PERRANPORTH.
THE DROSKYN CASTLE HOTEL
On the edge of the sea.
Always Good Food. Bedrooms with bathroom.
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SEAVIEW HOTEL
On the Front and in the front rank. Famous for its food, comfort and courtesy. Inquiries will have the personal attention of our Manageress, Miss Finlayson. Tel.: Eastbourne 470 (3 lines).

FEW GUESTS. Quiet holiday Country House; charming scenery.—Willsden House, Rhiwbina Hill, Cardiff.

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FOR an early Summer or Autumn Holiday stay at this first-class four-star Hotel.
THE GRENVILLE HOTEL,
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Private suites, good fare, warmth, and a few paces from Golf, Shops and Cinema.
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*FRAGRANCE of the Downs. Glory of the Channel. Comfort of the Hearth. Fellowship of Friends.*
VILLA VITA,
Kingsdown, near Deal, Kent.
Golf. Tennis. Riding, and the Sea.
Guests received. Write for Brochure.

GLORIOUS COTSWOLDS. Langston Arms Hotel, Kingham, Oxon. Modern, comfortable and excellent centre. Tel.: Kingham 209.

HAYTOR (nr. Newton Abbot) Moorland Hotel. Facing south, with pleasant gardens. Warm and comfortable. Riding stables adjoin. Tel. No.: Haytor 207. TRUST HOUSES LIMITED.

LEE BAY HOTEL, Lee, Devon, situated in beautiful and secluded valley by the sea.—JOHN HAMILTON, Proprietor. Ilfracombe 60.

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AN IDEAL SITUATION, quiet and secluded, yet close to Whitehall and only one minute from the Park and Underground Station. Well furnished, comfortable Hotel Bedrooms, fitted h. and c. basins, telephone and central heating, with and without private bathrooms.
*From 16/6 per night, with breakfast.*
Attractive features include a particularly charming public lounge, restaurant and private rooms for parties (fully licensed).
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CLIFTONVILLE HOTEL
150 bedrooms. Fully licensed. Lift. Dancing in restaurant and ballroom. Sports rooms. Limited accommodation available September and October.—Apply, MANAGER or phone Margate 1870.

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THE COMPLEAT ANGLER
the popularity of which is well known, provides a respite from the domestic front on the most beautiful reach of the Thames Valley. Good food and a well-stocked bar are combined with comfort. Every effort is made to receive visitors at short notice. Telephone: Marlow 15 and 444.

NORTH CORNWALL. Wilsey Down Hotel, near Launceston. Shooting-Fishing. Between moors and sea. Good cooking; own farm. Comfortable beds. Fully licensed.—WHITTINGHAM. Tel.: Otterham Station 205.

NORTH DEVON. Ashford Close, Private Hotel, Ashford, Barnstaple. Tel. 3343. Delightfully situated; 4 acres gardens, etc.; 10 bedrooms, h. and c; good food; 250 yards bus routes.—Resident Proprietors: Mr. and Mrs. W. E. BROOM.

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LANGDALE CHASE HOTEL
Best equipped Hotel in Lakeland. Country house environment. Many bedrooms with private bathrooms. Extensive grounds. Own boats and boat landing. Tel.: Ambleside 101.

THE ART OF GRACIOUS LIVING is studied, and demonstrated, to its fullest at Branksome Tower Hotel. An exclusive clientele evidences the approval of people accustomed to the world's best hotels. Every facility for pleasure, sport, or just plain idling, amid lovely surroundings, with private sea-promenade and pine-wooded cliffs. Flawless service at your elbow, a chef who is a gastronomic artist, and a wine cellar with an international reputation.
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SOUTH IRELAND. MIRAMAR HOTEL
MYRTLEVILLE, CROSSHAVEN, CORK
Situated on Atlantic, sub-tropical climate. Newly decorated and furnished, running h. and c. water. Excellent cuisine and food. Under English management. Bathing, Tennis, etc. Terms: July and September, £7 per week. Accommodation available. BOOK NOW.

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PEAT HUMUS PRODUCTS, granulated for light porous soils, 1 cwt., 14/-, 5 cwt. 60/-. CHAR-PEAT lightens soils and corrects acidity, 1 cwt. 16/-, 5 cwt. 70/-. LIME-PEAT, two soil conditioners in one, 1 cwt. 12/-, 5 cwt. 50/-. FRUIT-MULCH dressing for Tomatoes, Strawberries, etc., 1 cwt. 12/-, 5 cwt. 50/-. Carriage paid, c.w.o. to the Manufacturers, PEAT & CHARCOAL, LTD., Drewsteignton, Exeter, Devon.

STRAWSON GARDEN FRAMES. A few for sale. Order early. No purchase tax. Send 1d. stamp for List CL 46.—G. F. STRAWSON AND SON, Horley, Surrey.

THOUSANDS OF TONS of beautiful Westmorland water-worn Rockery Stone. Ideal for your garden.—For particulars apply to: LIME AND LIMESTONE QUARRIES, Brough, Westmorland.

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BIRD SEED for Sale. Please write for present prices of Bold Canary, White and Yellow Millet Canary Mixture, Sunflower, Parrot Mixture, Buckwheat, Budgerigar Mixture, Peanuts for bird feeding, Hemp, etc.—Kindly enclose stamp for particulars to BOURNE, "Ivydene," Oakthorpe, Near Burton-on-Trent.

EGGS AND POULTRY. December/January hatched Pullets and Stock Cockerels available from my pedigree blood-tested Light Sussex flock. Also hatching eggs. Prices on application.—VISCOUNT MONCK, Northington House, Overton, Basingstoke.

LAYING DUCKS for Sale. 6 Khaki Campbells and unrelated Drake, £11; £1 refundable on return of crate. Satisfaction guaranteed. Cash with order.—CAKEBREAD, "Savay Farm," Denham, Bucks. 'Phone: 2262.

LONG-HAIRED DACHSHUND PUPPIES at reasonable prices to good country homes only.—PENNY, Duddenhoe End, Saffron Walden, Essex.

PEDIGREE SIAMESE KITTENS, deep blue eyes, house trained, 9 weeks old; males 6 gns., females 5 gns.—MRS. JENNINGS, White Horses, Mundesley-on-Sea, Norfolk.

POULTRY HOUSES. Please send for details of the BLACKNELL "ALL PURPOSE" to H. and H. BLACKNELL, Union Street, Farnborough, Hants.

WELSUMMERS. Superior eggs, 40/- fifteen, unsexed chicks double, stock cockerels. Hundreds awards premier egg shows.—J. F. SMITH, Loxley Chase, Sheffield.

WANTED urgently, two dozen Wild Hares, half males, half females.—Write, MINNIS, 108, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C.3.

## SITUATIONS VACANT

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, EXETER. Applications are invited for the post of Administrative Officer for the supervision of the College Estate (farmland, halls of residence grounds, food production, etc. (and of the halls of residence (upkeep, accounts, etc.). Salary by arrangement. Further particulars may be obtained from the REGISTRAR.

## SITUATIONS WANTED

APPOINTMENT required in connection with estate and farm management. Life experience all branches. Free now. Age 35. Public School education. Post of trust preferred. Excellent refs.—Box 291.

CAPTAIN, R.A.S.C., aged 35, recently demobilised, seeks responsible appointment; eight years' pre-war experience general office administration. Anything considered.—Box 326.

GARDENER, head, working, life experience glass, fruit, flower, carnations, vegetable grower. Upkeep house required. Highly recommended by present employer. Within 20 miles Birmingham.—Box 319.

GENTLEMAN (44), married, recommended to live in country or sea air, desires post as Secretary or position where over 20 years' experience as accountant to large London firm and administrative ability could be used. Good typist, well educated. Two years Forces, now back with old firm. Nominal salary if good living accommodation for wife and self available. Excellent references.—Box 324.

LAND AGENT, highly qualified, requires part-time management of an agricultural estate; Home Counties.—Box 323.

LIEUT. (S) J. M. MORAN, R.N.R., ex Royal Mail lines. Late Marlag and Oflag IVc, Germany (4 years). Experienced salesman, good French, keen student of economics, offers efficient and willing service, commencing Sept. or Oct., in return for interesting work and reasonable salary. Age 36. Married with baby daughter.—Replies to H.M.S. *Fencer*.

MANAGER, farm and estate, desires post Home Counties, between now and Michaelmas. Particulars on application.—Box 277.

PUBLIC SCHOOLBOY, aged 15, tall, strong, requires resident post July, August and part of September. Experienced horses, riding and care of, some knowledge of forestry, good knowledge of plain cooking. Alternatively as Companion to younger children, supervision, riding, boxing and swimming instruction.—Please write, stating terms, to B. G. BAKER, Chiesboys, Wisborough Green, Sussex.

SENIOR PUBLIC SCHOOLBOY, 17, requires resident post July, August, September, Experienced horses, riding and care of, knowledge of farming. Alternatively as tutor to younger children, or preferably temporary duty as junior in editorial department of daily newspaper. Some typing, and can drive car.—Please write to F. BAKER, Chiesboys, Wisborough Green, Sussex.

SITUATION required as Estate Carpenter; fully qualified; age 35 years, married, one child, Ex-Service man, R.E.—H. REDDIN, 187, London Road, Sevenoaks.

OTHER PROPERTY AND AUCTIONS ADVERTISING PAGE 10.

# COUNTRY LIFE

Vol. C No. 2581 JULY 5, 1946



## KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY

*By direction of Brigadier J. M. J. Evans, C.B.E., M.C.*

## NORTH WALES, AMID MAGNIFICENT SCENERY

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## BROOM HALL, NEAR PWLLHELI

**THE GEORGIAN MANSION is a fine example of period architecture, and stands in gardens facing south, famous for rhododendrons**

Hall, 4 reception rooms, 23 bed and dressing rooms, and 4 bathrooms. Main electricity. Private water supply. Stabling and garages. Three lodges. Two cottages. Finely timbered grounds.

**Home farm with bailiff's house and excellent buildings.**

Private aerodrome with hanger.

Trout and sea trout fishing.

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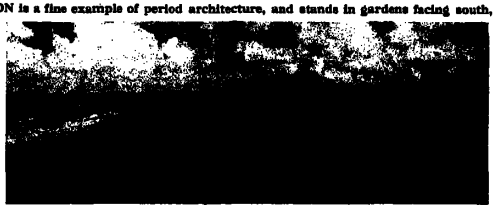

VIEW OF CRICCIETH PROPERTY

**YSTUMLLYN, CRICCIETH**

**A fine old manor house with massive oak beams.**

Great hall with inglenook, 2 other sitting rooms, 6 bedrooms and 4 attics.

**Farm buildings and land running down to seashore.** Small holding and accommodation or building land near Criccieth.

Vacant possession of a considerable area.

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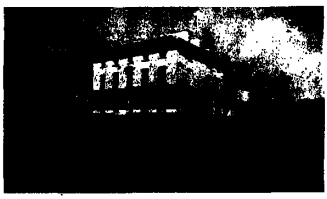

BROOM HALL.

**CWMYSTRADLLYN LAKE**

**ABOUT 300 ACRES**

**with fishing lodge and farm.**

**To be offered for Sale by Auction at Criccieth at an early date (unless previously sold privately).**

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ENTRANCE HALL VESTIBULE.

Land Agents: Messrs. YALE & HARDCASTLE, Pwllheli.
Auctioneers: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, 20, Hanover Square, W.1.

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**Adjoining the Town of Retford**

**16 MIXED FARMS**
**from 68 to 500 acres.**

**8 SMALL HOLDINGS**
**from 3 to 34 acres.**

**Several Parcels of Valuable Oak Woods**

ACCOMMODATION AND BUILDING LAND on the outskirts of East Retford.

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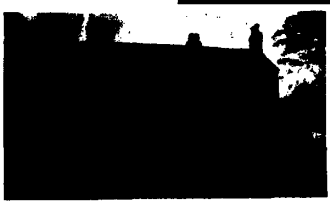
**with portions of Headon-cum-Upton, and including many Cottages, 2 Schools, & other village properties.**



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**GROVE HALL and PARK**

**The whole produces a gross and estimated rental of about £3,650.**

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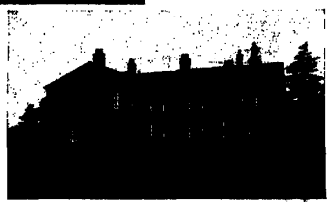

HEADON MANOR FARM.

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Auctioneers: Messrs. HENRY SPENCER & SONS, 20, The Square, Retford, and Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, 20, Hanover Square, W.1.
Particulars 2/6 per copy.

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Particulars and Conditions of Sale of the lovely and dignified SMALL RESIDENTIAL ESTATE of **UPDOWN HILL HOUSE.**

A COMFORTABLE QUEEN ANNE STYLE RESIDENCE.

Modernised, in perfect condition and ready for immediate occupation, with 3 reception rooms, sun room, twelve bed and dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms, efficient domestic offices. Central heating, main electricity and water. Septic tank drainage. Standing in exquisite and well matured garden and grounds. Occupying a southern slope with fine rhododendron walks and sheltered by the surrounding woodland of tall pine trees. LODGE. 2 COTTAGES. GARAGES. The whole having a total area of **33 ACRES** or thereabouts.

**Will be offered for SALE BY AUCTION (unless previously sold privately) at the Property on Tuesday, July 16, 1946, at 2.30 p.m. Auctioneers: Messrs. JACKSON STOPS & STAFF, 8, Hanover Street, London, W.1 (Mayfair 3316-7). Solicitors: Messrs. TROWER, STILL & KEELING, 5, New Square, Lincoln's Inn, London, W.C.2 (Holborn 3613).**

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**AUCTION, JULY 17.**

## THORNHILL, STALBRIDGE, DORSET

Fine Queen Anne House, dairy farm, home farm, 6 cottages, lodges. Valuable timber. In all about **285 ACRES.**

**Auctioneers: JACKSON STOPS & STAFF, Hendford, Yeovil (Tel.: 1066).**

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**DURING THE SUMMER**

*Exors. of Col. Sydney E. Smith, C.B.E., decd.*

## STUCKERIDGE, NORTH DEVON

Late Georgian Residence, 9 picturesque Cottages. Home Farm. 3 miles salmon and trout fishing. **800 ACRES.**

**Joint Auctioneers: FORD, HOWES & WILLIAMS, Bristol; JACKSON STOPS & STAFF, Hendford, Yeovil.**

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**MONDAY, JULY 15, at 11 a.m.**

*By orders of Exors. of Lady Fox, decd.*

## BRENT KNOLL MANOR, HIGHBRIDGE, SOMERSET

3 reception, 7 main bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Lodge and 2 bungalows. Farmery. Paddocks, in all **19 ACRES.** Vacant possession.

**Joint Auctioneers: JACKSON STOPS & STAFF, Hendford, Yeovil; COX & COX, LTD., 22, Victoria Street, Burnham-on-Sea.**

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**WEDNESDAY, JULY 31, at 3 p.m.**

## THE MANOR HOUSE, CRICKLADE, WILTS

5 reception, 17 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms. Main services. Central heating. Stabling. Garages. Garden and farmery.

**31 ACRES**

**Auctioneers: JACKSON STOPS & STAFF, Castle Street, Cirencester.**

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## COTSWOLDS

*Cirencester 6 miles. Cheltenham 10 miles. With magnificent views over the Churn Valley.*

Highly attractive, stone-built and stone-tiled gentleman's Residence, beautifully fitted throughout compact and labour-saving.

Entrance Hall, LOUNGE HALL, 3 RECEPTION ROOMS, 8 PRINCIPAL AND 4 SECONDARY BEDROOMS, 3 BATHROOMS. Complete Domestic Offices. GARAGE. STABLING. 2 SETS OF FARM BUILDINGS. 5 COTTAGES. LODGE AND BUNGALOW. Terrace and flower gardens. Hard tennis court. Lawns and kitchen gardens.

**LANDS EXTEND IN ALL TO 289¾ ACRES**

**TO BE SOLD with Possession of the House and Gardens.**

**Full particulars, appointment to view, etc., from JACKSON STOPS, Cirencester. Tel.: 334/5. (Folio 8090.)**

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*By direction of the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Dundonald.*

## NORTH WALES COAST

*Between Abergele and Llandulas. With over 2 miles of frontage to the Irish Sea.*

THE VALUABLE RESIDENTIAL, AGRICULTURAL AND SPORTING PROPERTY KNOWN AS GWRYCH CASTLE ESTATE

comprising some 66 Lots and including Gwrych Castle and Castle Great Wood, Old Gwrych Gardens, numerous houses, farms, small holdings, accommodation land, cottages. VALUABLE PARCELS OF BUILDING LAND and sites suitable for Holiday Camps, parkland, woodlands, with the valuable growing timber, extensive mineral rights and fishing rights extending in all to **ABOUT 1,436 ACRES. Auction at the Church House, Abergele, on Thursday, July 11, 1946. Illustrated particulars (price 2/6) from the Auctioneers: JACKSON STOPS & STAFF, 8, Hanover Street, London, W.1. Solicitors: Messrs. DAWSON AND CO., 8, New Square, London, W.C.2. Land Agents: Messrs. PROVER BURRILL AND OWEN, 47, Vale Street, Denbigh.**

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## SOMERSET

**Dorset Borders near Sherborne.**

**FINE TUDOR MANOR HOUSE**

3 reception, 7 bed and dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms. Mains. Central heating. **1 ACRE. PRICE £2,750.** Immediate possession.

**Particulars, JACKSON STOPS & STAFF, Hendford, Yeovil (Tel.: 1066).**

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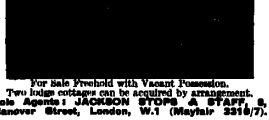
**BY AUCTION IN THE SUMMER (unless previously sold privately)**

## SOUTH OF THE HOG'S BACK

*Between Guildford and Farnham.*

**WELL APPOINTED RESIDENCE IN THE ELIZABETHAN STYLE**

12 bed and dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, billiards room, modern domestic offices with "Aga" cooker. Co.'s electricity and water. Central heating. Garage, stabling, cottage. Well-timbered grounds with many specimen trees. **ABOUT 17 ACRES**



For Sale Freehold with Vacant Possession.

Two lodge cottages can be acquired by arrangement.

**Sole Agents: JACKSON STOPS & STAFF, 8, Hanover Street, London, W.1 (Mayfair 3316/7).**

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Grosvenor 3121
(3 lines)

# WINKWORTH & CO.

**48, CURZON STREET, MAYFAIR, LONDON, W.1**

## 40 MILES WEST

*of London. 45 minutes by express rail.*

**A CHARMING QUEEN ANNE FARMHOUSE**

enlarged and with modern requirements.

9 best bedrooms, 4 staff bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, hall, 3 delightful period panelled reception rooms. Electricity. Main water. Central heating throughout. Stabling, garage and flat. Hard tennis court and old-world garden and grounds.

**For sale with 18 or perhaps 110 Acres.**

Owner's Agents: WINKWORTH & Co., 48, Curzon Street, Mayfair, London, W.1.

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**Midlands, on the edge of the**

## BEAUTIFUL PEAK DISTRICT

*On high ground. Good views. Dry soil.*

**A VERY FINE XVIIth CENTURY RESIDENCE**

in a lovely situation with drive approach. Completely modernised, it contains 14 bedrooms, with staff quarters, 4 bath and 4 reception rooms.

MAIN ELECTRICITY. CENTRAL HEATING.

**Small Home Farm in hand, 8 other farms, woods, trout stream, etc., forming an estate of over**

**1,000 ACRES PRICE £50,000**

View by order of the London Agents: WINKWORTH & Co., 48, Curzon Street, W.1.

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## 40 MINS. SOUTH

*of London. Adjoining favourite golf course.*

**A WELL-EQUIPPED GEORGIAN RESIDENCE**

containing all up-to-date services.

17 bedrooms, 9 bathrooms, suite of reception rooms, etc. Garage and flat. Lodge. Beautifully timbered grounds. Hard tennis court.

**25 ACRES PRICE £15,000**

Owner's Agents: WINKWORTH & Co., 48, Curzon Street, Mayfair, London, W.1.

# KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY

*By direction of Mrs. Willis Goldingham.*

## MAGNIFICENT POSITION ON COTSWOLD HILLS

**4 miles from Cheltenham, 7 miles from Gloucester, 93 miles from London.**

**THE FREEHOLD, RESIDENTIAL, AGRICULTURAL AND SPORTING**

## ULLENWOOD ESTATE, 587 ACRES

Comprising the **STONE-BUILT RESIDENCE** with mullioned windows, facing south, and approached by a drive with entrance lodge.

**Two halls, 4 reception, 7 principal and 7 secondary bedrooms, 4 bathrooms.**

Modern offices with "Aga." Main electricity, central heating. Spring water supply. Septic tank drainage.

**Garage for 3 Cars. Stabling. Timbered grounds and Gardens.**

Lawns, a lake of over ½ acre.

HOME FARM with excellent house and cottage. Small Holding. Cottage. Several accommodation holdings. Mainly with VACANT POSSESSION.

**For SALE by AUCTION as a whole or in lots at the Town Hall, Cheltenham, on July 19, at 3.30 p.m. (unless previously sold).**

Solicitors: Messrs. BUKERSALL, WATTESON & MOORE, 3, Regent Street, Cheltenham.
Auctioneers: Messrs. CHAS. C. CASTLE & SON, 2, Regent Street, Cheltenham, and Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, 20, Hanover Square, W.1.

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## BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

**6 miles from Buckingham and 15 miles from Aylesbury**

**THE FREEHOLD MODERN RESIDENCE**

## THE CLOSE, STEEPLE CLAYDON

Containing 3 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, bathroom, compact offices. Private water supply. Main drainage and electricity. Stabling and garage. Garden and orchard. In all nearly 2 acres.

**WITH VACANT POSSESSION**

also THE ADJOINING ARABLE FIELD
with entrance from the public highway extending to about 3 ACRES

**For Sale by Auction as a whole or in two lots at the White Hart Hotel, Buckingham, on Tuesday, 16th July, at 3.30 p.m. (unless previously sold).**

Solicitors: Messrs. WALTER R. J. LAW & SON, West Street, Buckingham.
Auctioneers: Messrs. OSBORN & SON, Land Agency Offices, Buckingham and Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, 20, Hanover Square, London, W.1.

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*By direction of Major D. Simers Currie, M.C.*

## SHROPSHIRE

**1½ miles from Hodnet. 7 miles Market Drayton. 14 miles Shrewsbury. In a district noted for sporting and social amenities.**

**THE FREEHOLD RESIDENCE**

## MARCHAMLEY HOUSE, MARCHAMLEY

**A charming old-world House dating from the early seventeenth century, facing south and having every modern convenience.**

Hall, 3 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, bathroom, and extremely compact offices.

**Main electricity and water. Central heating. Modern drainage. Two Garages. Stabling.**

Attractive and inexpensive gardens, with rose garden, lawn and abundantly stocked fruit and vegetable gardens. Orchard. Tennis Lawn. Two good Paddocks.

**ABOUT 4 ACRES. VACANT POSSESSION**

**For Sale by Auction in July (unless previously sold privately).**

Solicitors: Messrs. G. H. MORGAN & SONS, 2, Belmont, Shrewsbury.
Auctioneers: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, 20, Hanover Square, London, W.1.

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Regent 0293/3377
Reading 4441

# NICHOLAS

(Established 1862)

4, ALBANY COURT YARD, PICCADILLY, W.1: 1, STATION ROAD, READING

Telegrams:
"Nicholayor, Picc, London"
"Nicholas, Reading"

*By direction of The Lord Parmoor.*

## THE PARMOOR ESTATE, BUCKS

*In the loveliest part of the Chilterns.*

**Between Henley-on-Thames and High Wycombe.**

**Auction July 18th next in 44 Lots including**

**PARMOOR HOUSE**, a dignified country residence with about a dozen principal bed and dressing rooms, arranged in suites with 8 bathrooms and staff accommodation. Magnificent suite of entertaining apartments. Delightful inexpensive gardens and parkland. Garages, stabling and cottages. Wonderful position 550 ft. above sea, with glorious views. Main water and electricity.

**OFFERED WITH 23 OR 354 ACRES**

A number of excellent Farms, including: Bagmoor, 85 acres; Little Parmoor, 91 acres; Shoghmoor, 92 acres; Upper Goddards, 54 acres; Lower Goddards, 42 acres; The Stud Farm, 97 acres; Fine Hall, 239 acres; Luxters, 42 acres; Fingest, 63 acres; Jover's, 23 acres.

Small holdings, accommodation land, building sites and a number of picturesque cottages. Main water supply. Electric light either installed or available. Valuable woodlands.

**IN ALL ABOUT 1,265 ACRES**

Illustrated particulars, price 2/6, of the Auctioneers: Messrs. NICHOLAS, 4, Albany Court Yard, Piccadilly, W.1, and Station Road, Reading.

*By direction of The Lord Parmoor.*

## "PARMOOR," FRIETH

**IMPORTANT FIVE DAYS' SALE**

of the whole of

## The CONTENTS of the MANSION

comprising costly modern and antique furniture, linen, fine porcelain, old silver and plate, old English and Irish glass, the pictures, the library of books, rare carpets and rugs

**which will be sold by Auction on the premises on July 22 and the four following days.**

Illustrated catalogues, price 2/6 each, of the Auctioneers Messrs. NICHOLAS, 4, Albany Court Yard, Piccadilly, W.1, and Station Road, Reading.

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# F. L. MERCER & CO.

Regent 2481

SACKVILLE HOUSE, 40, PICCADILLY, W.1

## RURAL HERTS, NEAR ST. ALBANS

**COMPLETELY MODERNISED SMALL COUNTRY HOUSE IN ATTRACTIVE GARDENS**

IN EXCELLENT STATE OF REPAIR.

SPACIOUS AND LOFTY ROOMS.

TASTEFULLY DECORATED.

Bus service passes property. 35 minutes from London.

3 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, well-equipped kitchen, maid's sitting room. Company's electric light, gas and water. Central heating. Main drainage. Wash basins in bedrooms.

Garage for 2 cars.

Loose box and harness room.

Lawns with ornamental pool, fruit and vegetable garden, grass orchard.

**3¼ ACRES. FREEHOLD £8,500**

**Vacant Possession**

INSPECTED AND HIGHLY RECOMMENDED BY THE AGENTS.

Agents: F. L. MERCER & CO., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1. Tel.: Regent 2481.

# HAMPTON & SONS

**6, ARLINGTON STREET, ST. JAMES'S, S.W.1**

Regent 8222 (12 lines) Telegrams: "Selanist, Piccy, London"

*By direction of Major P. St. Barrett.*

## EAST SUFFOLK

**IMPORTANT FREEHOLD RESIDENTIAL AND AGRICULTURAL ESTATE KNOWN AS**

CRANSFORD HALL

### CRANSFORD HALL, SAXMUNDHAM

**ATTRACTIVE MODERN RESIDENCE**

containing entrance, inner and lounge halls, 4 reception, boudoir, 7 principal and 5 servants' bedrooms, 4 dressing rooms, 5 bathrooms. Lodge, garages, stabling, chauffeur's flat, pleasure and kitchen gardens, valuable standing timber. Seven mixed farms. Forge, cottages, woodlands, accommodation land, extending in all to **1,412 ACRES.** Rent Roll £1,501 per annum.

*HAMPTON & SONS*

will offer the above Estate for Sale by Auction as a whole or in 17 Lots (unless previously sold by private treaty) at Ipswich in late July, 1946.

*Solicitors: Messrs. FOYER WHITE & PRESCOTT, 8, Lygon Place, Grosvenor Gardens, London, S.W.1.*

HALL FARM

*Auctioneers: HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1 (Regent 8222).*

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*By direction of Dr. A. M. Humphry.*

## HORHAM HALL, THAXTED, ESSEX

**A small delightfully mellowed and unspoilt moated Tudor Gem set in the beautiful old world "Retreat" district of north-west Essex.**

For sale with **10½ OR 35½ ACRES**

or as a whole estate of **750 ACRES**

3 mixed farms, 7 cottages and shooting let and producing a **rent roll of £615 per annum.** **Vacant Possession** of hall, gardens and grounds. For Sale by Private Treaty or Auction at a later date.

HORHAM HALL, THAXTED

A convenient small Manor House where Queen Elizabeth held her Court in 1571.

7 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, entrance and large galleried hall, gentlemen's cloakroom, study, library, drawing, dining and morning rooms.

Lovely open fireplaces and much original oak. Central heating. Own electricity. Main water.

Garages, grounds and park.

*Solicitors: Messrs. EADEN, SPARKING & HAYNES, 90 and 92, Regent Street, Cambridge. Further particulars may be obtained from—Land Agent: J. O. BARBROOK, A.A.I., Thaxted Essex (Tel.: Thaxted 338). London Agents: HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1 (Regent 8222).*

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*By order of the Executors of Sir Clifford J. Cory, dec.*

## LLANTARNAM ABBEY ESTATE, MONMOUTHSHIRE

*Only 3 miles from Newport with outlying portions in Glamorganshire.*

Imposing Mansion containing 5 reception rooms, billiard room, 8 principal bedrooms, 10 secondary and staff bedrooms, 5 bathrooms. Private chapel. Extensive garages. Stabling and outbuildings. Gardener's cottage, 2 lodges. Ornamental and pleasure gardens, walled kitchen and fruit gardens.

LLANTARNAM ABBEY

Even well-wooded Parkland.

7 farms, 3 residences, 12 cottages, extending in all to over **550 ACRES.**

For Sale in 18 or 21 lots at the King's Head Hotel, Newport, on Wednesday, July 17, 1946, at 3 p.m. (unless previously sold).

*Solicitors: Messrs. LEWIS & LEWIS & GISBORNE, 11 and 12, Bip Place, Holborn, E.C.1. Auctioneers: RENNIE TAYLOR & TILL, Central Chambers, Newport, Mon., and HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1 (Regent 8222).*

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*By direction of Lieut.-Col. Sir Ian Walker Bart, D.S.O.*

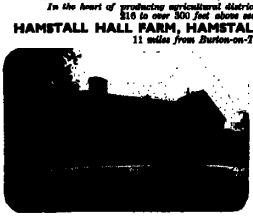
**WITH VACANT POSSESSION. EXCEPT TWO COTTAGES**

*In the heart of productive agricultural district and 3 market towns.*

*216 to over 300 feet above sea level.*

## HAMSTALL HALL FARM, HAMSTALL RIDWARE, STAFFS.

*11 miles from Burton-on-Trent*



HAMSTALL HALL

Important and historic Residential, Agricultural and Sporting Property, sunny slope, with extensive views. Elizabethan homestead, hall, 2 reception and gun room, 2 staircases, 7 bed and dressing rooms carrying period and linen-fold panelling. Offices. Garage, 3 sets of farm buildings, 9 cottages, school house. Rich pasture and arable lands of about 575½ acres providing rough shooting, trout and grayling fishing in the River Blythe. Co.'s electric light. Own water supply.

**AUCTION WEDNESDAY, JULY 24, 1946,** at the Queen's Hotel, Burton-on-Trent at 3 p.m., unless previously sold.

*Solicitors: MESSRS. HENRY GREENALL & CO., 8, Warwick Street, Warrington, Lancs. Particulars and plan from Chartered Land Agents: MESSRS. SMITH-WOOLLEY & CO., Collingham, Newark, Notts., and the Auctioneers: MESSRS. HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1 (Regent 8222).*

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## HIGHGATE VILLAGE, N.6.

**Fascinating XVIIth century Residence with charming old-world features.**

Panelling, powder closets, etc. Secluded position commanding views over Ken Wood and Hampstead Heath. Over 400 ft. up and easily accessible from City and West End. Attractive elevation in weathered brick and tiled roof and is approached through a brick and paved fore-court. Fine lounge hall, double drawing room, dining room, boudoir, 9 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Complete domestic offices.

Truly beautiful private garden approached by wide brick terrace with lawn, lavender border, fruit trees, including fig tree. The upper garden is bounded by a massively buttressed parapet wall reputed to date from the Tudor period. The lower garden has a series of interesting caves, prolific kitchen garden, etc.

**FREEHOLD £12,750**

*HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1 (Regent 8222).*

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**BRANCH OFFICES: WIMBLEDON COMMON, S.W.19 (WIM. 0261) BISHOP'S STORTFORD (343)**

Regent 4304

# OSBORN & MERCER

MEMBERS OF THE CHARTERED SURVEYORS' AND AUCTIONEERS' INSTITUTES

35b, ALBEMARLE ST., PICCADILLY, W.1

## GUILDFORD

*Situate in a quiet position about 300 ft. above sea level, near to an old village.*

A DELIGHTFUL 16TH-CENTURY FARMHOUSE

with a wealth of old oak and in first-rate order. Lounge hall, 2 reception rooms, 7 bed and dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms. Co'y's electricity, gas and water. Garage for 2 cars. The charming old gardens have been well maintained, and there are lawns, flower and kitchen gardens, orchard, etc.,

IN ALL ABOUT 1¼ ACRES.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH EARLY POSSESSION

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (17,707)

## ASHTEAD, SURREY

*Occupying a choice position adjoining and overlooking the cricket ground, within easy reach of the station with its excellent train service to Town.*

AN ATTRACTIVE UP-TO-DATE HOUSE

Lounge hall, 3 reception rooms, 8 bedrooms, bathroom. All main services. Garage.

Matured well-timbered grounds with tennis and other lawns, herbaceous borders, well-stocked kitchen gardens, etc., in all

ABOUT 1½ ACRES

FOR SALE FREEHOLD EARLY POSSESSION

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (17,686)

## CUMBERLAND

*In the beautiful West Water area of the Lake District.*

THE REMAINING PORTIONS OF THE IRTON HALL ESTATE comprising

Three capital farms, small country residence, several cottages, extensive woodland and accommodation lands.

About 2½ miles of Salmon and Trout Fishing in the River Irt.

The whole extending to about 980 ACRES.

For Sale by Auction in 21 Lots at THE PARISH HALL, DRIGG, on TUESDAY, JULY 30, 1946, at 2.30 p.m. (unless previously sold by private treaty).

Solicitors: Messrs. ERNEST G. SCOTT & Co., 31-3, Broad Street Avenue, Blomfield Street, E.C.2.

Auctioneers: Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER, 35b, Albemarle Street, London, W.1.

## SURREY AND HANTS BORDERS

*Occupying a splendid position facing south, on gravel soil, some 350 ft. above sea level.*

AN EXCELLENT MODERN HOUSE

with 3 reception rooms, 7 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, main services. Two garages.

The gardens are not at present in good order, but with some attention could soon be restored to their former attractive character. The total area is

ABOUT 1½ ACRES.

PRICE, FREEHOLD, ONLY £3,300 FOR A QUICK SALE

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (M.2144)

## CAMBS AND ESSEX BORDERS

*In an attractive position surrounded by open country and commanding good views.*

A BRICK-BUILT MODERN HOUSE

with hall, 3 reception rooms, 3 bedrooms, bathroom.

MAIN WATER AND ELECTRICITY. MODERN DRAINAGE. Well-timbered gardens, ORCHARD, arable and a SMALL POULTRY FARM. In all

ABOUT 6 ACRES

PRICE FREEHOLD £3,800

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (M.2456)



5, MOUNT ST., LONDON, W.1

# CURTIS & HENSON

Grosvenor 3131 (3 lines) Established 1878

## BETWEEN TAUNTON & EXETER

*500 ft. up. Delightful views.*

AN ATTRACTIVE RESIDENCE

Nine bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 good reception rooms.

Garage and useful outbuildings.

Electric lighting. Ample water supply. Central heating and domestic hot water.

Charming gardens.

ABOUT 2 ACRES

FREEHOLD, FOR SALE, £4,750

VACANT POSSESSION.

Details from CURTIS & HENSON, as above.

## SUFFOLK

*2 miles main line junction, London 1½ hours. Quiet position well away from all traffic.*

A BEAUTIFULLY APPOINTED RESIDENCE

Accommodation on two floors. Well appointed. In first-rate structural and decorative repair. Ten principal bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, 7 staff rooms, lounge hall, suite of fine reception rooms; electric light, ample water, central heating; garage, stabling; three cottages. Exceptionally charming gardens, park-like pasture land.

ABOUT 38 ACRES

Vacant possession of house, grounds and one cottage.

For Sale privately or by Auction early September.

Sole Agents: CURTIS & HENSON, 5 Mount Street, W.1.

## FOWEY, CORNWALL

*A yachtsman's paradise. Magnificent sea and harbour views. A perfect "sun-trap."*

ARCHITECT DESIGNED HOUSE

Eight bedrooms, bathroom, lounge, 2 reception rooms

Main electric light and water.

Central heating. Large garage.

Delightful gardens.

FREEHOLD, PRICE £7,000 OR OFFER

Local rates £26 10s. per annum.

POSSESSION BY ARRANGEMENT.

Sole Agents: CURTIS & HENSON, as above. Personally inspected and recommended.



3, MOUNT ST., LONDON, W.1

# RALPH PAY & TAYLOR

Grosvenor 1032-33

Many thousands of pounds were spent on this property immediately prior to the war and is in excellent order throughout. The house and grounds, owing to its unique size and character, are inexpensive to maintain.

## SURREY—SUSSEX BORDERS

*20 miles from coast. Excellent main line electric train service to City and West End.*

A CHARMING MINIATURE ESTATE IN HEART OF LOVELY COUNTRY

300 ft. up with extensive views to the south. A perfect house with Georgian features. 9 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms and a games or billiards room. Compact domestic offices. Central heating. Main electricity and water. 3 excellent cottages. Modern garage. Stabling for 6. Old-established pleasure grounds with beautiful timbered trees and conifers, masses of rhododendrons. Partly walled kitchen garden, orchard, parkland and paddocks in all about

48 ACRES FREEHOLD FOR SALE

VACANT POSSESSION ON COMPLETION

Certain items of furniture, carpets, soft furnishings, etc. garden tools equipment can be taken over at valuation. Sole Agents: Messrs. RALPH PAY & TAYLOR, 3, Mount St., W.1 (Tel.: Grosvenor 1032), or Messrs. RALPH PAY & TAYLOR, 22, Milbank, S.W.1 (Tel.: Victoria 8012).

184, BROMPTON ROAD, LONDON, S.W.3

# BENTALL, HORSLEY & BALDRY

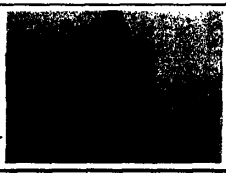
Kensington 0152-3

VERY FINE HOUSE
A TRUE REPLICA

of a stone-built, gabled Cotswold Manor with stone roof and stone mullions and Critall windows, situated high on the Cotswolds enjoying lovely views, adjoining famous 18-hole links, having every modern convenience and in perfect condition. Three reception, 7 bedrooms (h. and c.), 3 bathrooms. Main electricity. Company's water. Central heating, gas. Good offices and servants' hall. Heated garage for 2 cars. Charming terraced garden and wood and 1 acre.

FREEHOLD £9,950. POSSESSION SEPTEMBER.

Not a penny need be spent.



Just offered.

PAIGNTON, DEVON

Facing south overlooking orchards and farmlands.

Charming House of character, 3 reception, 7 bedrooms, bath. Main electricity and every convenience. Standing in gardens. ½ ACRE. Further land might be had.

IMMEDIATE POSSESSION.

FREEHOLD £8,000

Quick inspection advisable.

AT ALL TIMES

It is difficult to obtain properties in Berkshire, and especially the smaller type of country residence, but we can offer just that characteristic PROPERTY to meet in demand and situated in a most beautiful part. It enjoys a secluded position 900 feet up with south aspect, adjoining a Common, and commands lovely views. It contains 3 reception, 6 bedrooms, bath, and has main electric light, water by gravitation, and central heating, garage, stabling, charming garden with thousands of bulbs, bordered by a clear running brook, orchard, and meadows, in all 1½ ACRES. FREEHOLD £6,250

Excellent condition.

BENTALL, HORSLEY & BALDRY, as above.

# GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS

(ESTABLISHED 1778)

25, MOUNT ST., GROSVENOR SQ., W.1

Grosvenor 1553 (4 lines)

Hobart Place, Eaton Sq., West Halkin St., Belgrave Sq., and 62, Victoria St., Westminster, S.W.1

## "UPLANDS" CHARLES HILL, FARNHAM, SURREY

*An extremely well-placed residence in healthy pine and heather country.*

Fine lounge hall, 3 reception rooms, billiards room, 9 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, compact offices with servants' hall. Main electric light and power and water. Modern drainage.

Garages and stabling. Pair semi-detached cottages.

Finely timbered pleasure grounds, kitchen garden, etc., in all about 10 Acres. Freehold with Possession. *For sale by Auction as a whole or in 2 Lots* (unless previously sold privately) at the London Auction Mart, 155, Queen Victoria Street, E.C.4, on Wednesday, July 24, 1946, at 2.30 p.m. precisely.

Illustrated particulars with conditions of sale of the solicitors: Messrs. SHALLPICE AND MERRYMAN, High Street, Guildford, Surrey, or of the Joint Auctioneers: Mr. W. G. F. SWAYNE, F.A.I., 2, Clinton Place, Seaford, Sussex (Seaford 2144), or Messrs. GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount St., Grosvenor Sq., London, W.1 (Grosvenor 1553).

## SUSSEX - *Grand Position with Wonderful Views*

*11 miles from Eastbourne.*

**Delightful OLD MANOR HOUSE**

having well-proportioned and not low, rooms, the old period features and timbered work having been displayed in a delightful manner.

9 or 11 bed and dressing rooms, 6 bathrooms, fine lounge (28 ft. by 17 ft.), 3 other sitting rooms. Central heating, electricity, ample water.

A fine old barn (accommodates 5 or 6 cars). Cottage. OLD WORLD GARDENS

Tennis court. Pretty woods. Two small lakes. Orchard and paddocks of 30 ACRES

PRICE £12,000 FURNITURE AT VALUATION IF DESIRED

Personally inspected and recommended by GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W.1. (C.2214)



OXFORD 4537/8

# JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK

OXFORD AND CHIPPING NORTON

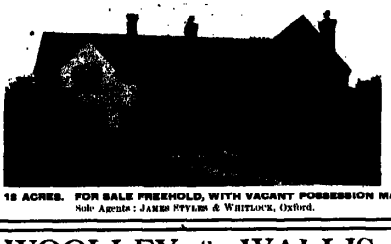
CHIPPING NORTON 39

## IN THE CENTRE OF THE BICESTER HUNT

*On the outskirts of a pretty village and within easy access of fast train services to London and the north.*

**AN ATTRACTIVE OLD STONE-BUILT FARMHOUSE RESIDENCE**

modernised and enlarged. Porch entrance, entrance hall, 3 reception rooms, good domestic offices, 7 bed and dressing rooms, bathroom, good storage space. Main electric light and power. Ample water supply. Modern drainage system. Telephone.



Good modern stabling providing accommodation for 16 horses. 2 garages and a horsebox garage. Small farmery with standings for 4 cows, dairy, private forge, etc.

Bungalow and cottage, also building suitable for conversion to groom's accommodation. Attractive pleasure gardens, with small swimming pool. Well-stocked kitchen gardens, prolific orchard, and several paddocks.

In all about 18 ACRES. FOR SALE FREEHOLD, WITH VACANT POSSESSION MAY 1, 1947

Sole Agents: JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, Oxford.



SALISBURY (Tel. 2491)

# WOOLLEY & WALLIS

and at RINGWOOD & ROMSEY

## FISHING IN THE TEST

*5 miles from Romsey and 12 miles from Winchester and Southampton.*

**AN ATTRACTIVE SPORTING PROPERTY KNOWN AS THE FISHING COTTAGE, BROOK**

**WITH 20 ACRES**

Lounge hall, 3 reception rooms, 7 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, modern domestic offices.

Charming riverside gardens. Hard tennis court.

Garage block. Two cottages. Two duck meres.

3 miles of Fishing in the River Test.

**FOR SALE BY AUCTION** (unless previously sold privately) at the Royal Hotel, Winchester, on Wednesday, July 17, 1946, at 3 p.m.

Particulars (price 1/-) from the Auctioneers, Estate Offices, Romsey, Hampshire (Telephone: Romsey 129 or 187) and at Ringwood and Salisbury.



# TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley St., W.1

Grosvenor 2861 Telegrams: "Cornishmen, London"

**MAIDENHEAD.** Fronting a beautiful reach of the Thames. Station just over a mile. **CHARMING RIVERSIDE RESIDENCE** in good order. 3 reception, sun room, 2 bathrooms, 5 bedrooms. Double garage with staff rooms. All main services. Central heating. Telephone. Lawns reaching to waters edge. **£8,000 WITH POSSESSION SEPTEMBER,** possibly earlier by arrangement. Strongly recommended.—TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (22,666)

**HANTS.** On outskirts of Andover. **SUBSTANTIALLY BUILT RESIDENCE.** 3 reception, bath, 6 bedrooms. Main services. Garage. Large garden. **£4,500 FREEHOLD.**—TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (22,231)

**BUCKS.** Iver village. **PICTURESQUE 15TH-CENTURY RESIDENCE.** Hall, cloakroom, 3 reception, 2 bathrooms, 5-6 bedrooms. All main services. Garage and outbuildings. ½ **ACRE ENCLOSED GARDEN. FREEHOLD.**—TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (22,642)

**£8,500** **16 ACRES**

**WEST SUSSEX.** Convenient for Fittleworth and Pulborough. Lovely position protected from development. **CHARMING COUNTRY HOUSE** in good order throughout. Lounge hall, 3 reception, 3 bath, 6 bedrooms, 4 attics. **MAIN ELECTRICITY AND WATER. TELEPHONE.** Villa glass. Garages, stabling and outbuildings. Attractive gardens. Kitchen and fruit gardens and grassland.—Inspected and recommended. TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (15,551)



S. W. SANDERS, F.V.A. **SANDERS'** T. S. SANDERS, F.V.A.

MARKET PLACE, SIDMOUTH.

## EAST DEVON

*Close to sea and a favourite resort. First-class golf course, riding, etc.*

A Thatched Residence which has been planned and built without regard to cost and is in perfect order throughout. The principal accommodation includes 4 reception and 9 bedrooms, with 4 bathrooms, central heating.

*Garage 3 cars.*

Six-roomed cottage.

Grounds of 13 ACRES, including paddocks and *hard* tennis court.

PRICE £16,000

## SIDMOUTH

**AN ATTRACTIVE MEDIUM SIZED COUNTRY RESIDENCE**

with about 4 acres, occupying delightfully healthy situation. Three reception, 7 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, central heating. Immediate possession. PRICE £7,500

Telegrams: "Wood, Agents, Wesdo, London."

# JOHN D. WOOD & CO.

23, BERKELEY SQUARE, LONDON, W.1

Mayfair 3341 (10 lines)

## LINCOLN

FOR SALE AT A LOW PRICE

*Between Grantham (8 miles) and Spalding. Corby 2 miles.*

WELL-BUILT HOUSE

in small park of 36 ACRES Four reception rooms, 12 bedrooms, bathroom, electric light, excellent water supply. Commodious stabling, men's quarters, garages, farmery, walled kitchen garden, lodge.

PRICE FREEHOLD £5,000

Further particulars from JOHN D. WOOD & Co., 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1. (63,240)

## LEICESTERSHIRE

*Centre of the Quorn Country.*

DELIGHTFUL SMALL RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY AND HUNTING BOX

THE GROVE, COSSINGTON

Hall, cloakroom, 3 sitting, 6-7 bed., 3 bath., kitchen with "Esse," etc. Main electricity and water, complete central heating. Stc loose boxes, 2 garages; fully maintained garden and 10 acres of surrounding land, the whole in perfect condition, with vacant possession.

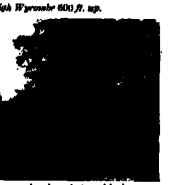
Also a detached villa, two bungalows and accommodation fields.

For Sale by Auction in 5 lots (unless previously sold privately) in the summer, by Messrs. SHAKESPEAR, McTURK & GRAHAM, 17, Wellington Street, Leicester, and JOHN D. WOOD & Co., 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1.

## SOUTHERN CHILTERNS

*Facing a Common between Henley and High Wycombe 600 ft. up.*

FOR SALE, attractive secluded Residential property of 12 ACRES. Drive with lodge, 3 sitting rooms, garden room, 8 first-floor bedrooms, 4 others, 2 bathrooms, main electricity, part central heating; two cottages.



Extensive outbuildings, stabling, walled garden, orchard and 4 paddocks.

FREEHOLD £14,000

JOHN D. WOOD & Co., as above. (41,548)

## IN THE HEART OF THE SOUTH DOWNS

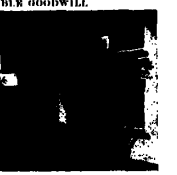
*At the foot of Chanctonbury Ring, 7 miles from the sea at Worthing, 8 miles from Pulborough (main line), Horsham 12 miles, Brighton 15 miles.*

FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION as a going concern, fully furnished and equipped TOGETHER WITH THE VALUABLE GOODWILL

The Charming, Highly Recommended and Very Successful PRIVATE HOTEL AND TEA GARDENS known as

CLEMATIS COTTAGE, WASHINGTON

Comprising three picturesque old-world cottages set in an enchanting partly walled garden, and providing comfortably furnished accommodation for 18 guests, together with appropriate sitting, dining rooms, and bathrooms; also FLOURISHING TEA-ROOM AND GARDENS. GARAGE, ORCHARD. Also (as a separate Lot) an excellent small Freehold Building Site with all services and enjoying a lovely view of the Downs.



TO BE OFFERED FOR SALE BY AUCTION IN TWO LOTS (unless previously sold privately) by JOHN D. WOOD & Co., on Thursday, July 25, 1946, at 3.30 p.m., at the London Auction Mart, 155, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C.4. Auctioneers' Offices: 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1.

# FAREBROTHER, ELLIS & CO.

Central 9344/5/6/7

Established 1799

AUCTIONEERS, CHARTERED SURVEYORS, LAND AGENTS.

29, FLEET STREET, LONDON, E.C.4

Telegrams: "Farebrother, London"

## FISHERS HILL, HOOK HEATH, WOKING

Adjacent to three Golf Courses.

A LUTYENS HOUSE

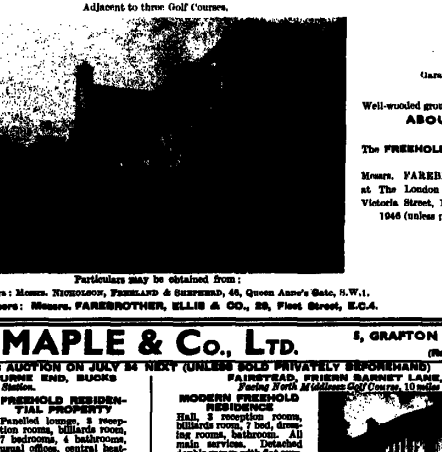
12 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms.

Well-arranged domestic offices.

Companies' electric light and water.

Modern drainage.

TWO COTTAGES.



Garage for three cars.

Well-wooded grounds and kitchen garden, in all

ABOUT 12 ACRES

The FREEHOLD will be offered for Sale by Auction by Messrs. FAREBROTHER, ELLIS & CO. at The London Auction Mart, 155 Queen Victoria Street, E.C., on Thursday, July 18, 1946 (unless previously sold privately).

Particulars may be obtained from:

The Solicitors: Messrs. NICHOLSON, FREELAND & SHEPHERD, 46, Queen Anne's Gate, S.W.1.

The Auctioneers: Messrs. FAREBROTHER, ELLIS & CO., 29, Fleet Street, E.C.4.

TOTTENHAM COURT RD., W.1 (Euston 7080)

# MAPLE & Co., LTD.

5, GRAFTON ST., MAYFAIR, W.1 (Regent 4685)

FOR SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION ON JULY 24 NEXT (UNLESS SOLD PRIVATELY BEFOREHAND)

"BROOK HOUSE," WOOBURN GREEN, BOURNE END, BUCKS

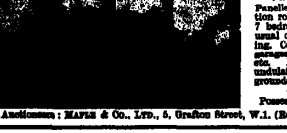
*25 miles from Town, 1 mile Bourne End Station.*

FREEHOLD RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY

Panelled lounge, 3 reception rooms, billiards room, 7 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, usual offices, central heating. Co.'s services. Lodge, garages, bungalow, stabling, etc. Beautifully wooded undulating gardens and grounds, in all about

15 ACRES.

Possession on completion.



FAIRSTEAD, FRIERN BARNET LANE, WHETSTONE

*Facing North Middlesex Golf Course, 10 miles north of Town.*

MODERN FREEHOLD RESIDENCE

Hall, 3 reception rooms, billiards room, 7 bed, dressing rooms, bathroom. All main services. Detached double garage with flat over. Particularly fine gardens. Hard tennis court. Rock garden. Heated greenhouses, etc., in all about

2 ACRES.

Possession on completion.

Auctioneers: MAPLE & Co., LTD., 5, Grafton Street, W.1. (Regent 4685).

Joint Auctioneers: Messrs. COLLIERS & SONS, 124, High Road, N.11, and MAPLE & Co., LTD., 5, Grafton Street, Mayfair.

23, MOUNT ST., GROSVENOR SQ., LONDON, W.1

# WILSON & CO.

Grosvenor 1441

## LITTLE HAMPDEN MANOR, GREAT MISSENDEN, BUCKS.

*In a lovely situation 600 ft. up on the Chiltern Hills. One hour London.*

**VALUABLE FREEHOLD RESIDENTIAL AND AGRICULTURAL ESTATE**

SINGULARLY CHARMING MODERN HOUSE. Long drive, 12 bed and dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms, lounge hall, 3 reception rooms. Main services, central heating Stabling, garage. Two cottages. Finely timbered gardens, woodland, etc Vacant possession.

EXCELLENT HOME FARM (let) with good house and buildings Attractive cottage residence, other cottages, accommodation land, and VALUABLE WOODLANDS

**ABOUT 393 ACRES** The house would be sold with a small area.

FOR SALE PRIVATELY OR BY AUCTION IN 11 LOTS ON JULY 19

Sole Agents and Auctioneers Messrs. PRETTY & ELLIS, Great Missenden, and Messrs WILSON & CO, 23, Mount Street, W 1

## BEAUTIFUL OLD 14TH CENTURY HOUSE OF HISTORIC INTEREST

*In lovely part of Sussex. About an hour from London.*

In first-rate order and beautifully appointed South aspect.

9 bed and dressing rooms, 4 bathrooms, oak panelled hall, 3 reception rooms. Excellent domestic offices with servants' hall.

Fine music or dance room, 45 x 25, with musicians' gallery.

Central heating, main water, electric light, h & c. in all principal bedrooms.

3 cottages and excellent outbuildings

**FOR SALE WITH 80 ACRES**

Photographs and plan with owner's Agents: WILSON & CO., 23, Mount Street, W 1.

16, ARCADE STREET, IPSWICH Ipswich 4334

# WOODCOCKS

30, ST. GEORGE STREET, HANOVER SQUARE, W.1 Mayfair 5411

**WEST SUSSEX** (½ mile charming village, 11 Guildford) Choice Dairy Farm, **92 ACRES**: gentleman's House standing high in beautifully maintained gardens (3 sitting, 4 bedrooms, 3 with basins, central heating, main electric light and water, telephone), cottage, 3 beds, bath, electric, model farm buildings with pedigree cowsheds for 19, possession of whole September 29, but tenant of land would remain if desired A unique property at **£12,000.**—WOODCOCKS, London Office.

**SURREY**, beautiful Hindhead district. Singularly attractive small property **30 ACRES** adjoining National Trust land, and the Golden Valley, small House (2 sitting, 3 beds, bath h. and c, main electric light and water), T T. dairy premises, over £2,000 recently spent, **£7,000 FREEHOLD**, possession -WOODCOCKS, London Office

**SOUTH CORNWALL**, own bathing beach **214-ACRE** Mixed Farm, 2 miles favourite yachting centre, Stone House (2 sitting, 7 bedrooms, bath, main electric) with choice sea views, good and ample buildings for T T cattle, **FREEHOLD £12,000**, possession —WOODCOCKS, London Office

**BETWEEN GLOUCESTER AND CHELTENHAM**

*Facing Village Green*

**CHARMING OLD TUDOR MANOR HOUSE** (mentioned in Atkins' *History of Gloucestershire* as dating back to the fourteenth century) Lounge hall, 3 reception rooms, 8 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, staff sitting room, 2 staircases, main services Lovely old-world gardens with a wealth of yew topiary, orchards and paddocks, **8 ACRES** bounded by stream Cottage, stabling, garages. POSSESSION **FREEHOLD £8,750.**—Inspected and recommended by WOODCOCKS, London Office

**DEVON,** sloping to trout stream **207-ACRE** Farm (144 grass), beautifully placed Georgian style House (4 sitting, 7 beds, bath, h. and c), ample farm buildings with modern cowsheds, excellent cottage **£8,750 FREEHOLD.** Possession September 29.—WOODCOCKS, London Office.

**BUCKS.** Attested T.T Dairy Farm **103 ACRES**, compact modern House (3 sitting, 5 beds, 2 baths, electric light, main water), good and ample buildings with many boxes, cottage, 4 beds, tithe free. **£9,500 OR NEAR, FREEHOLD.** Possession September —WOODCOCKS, London Office

**GUERNSEY.** Exceptionally choice Residence in 2½ **ACRES** with sea views, particularly lovely grounds with abundance of fruit, lounge, 2 reception and large billiards room, 5 principal and 4 servants' bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, wash-hand basins throughout, main services and all modern conveniences—Full details and photos of WOODCOCKS, London Office


# CLASSIFIED PROPERTIES

*2/- per line. (Min. 3 lines.) Box fee 1/6.*


## AUCTIONS

**KENT**

*Between Deal and Dover About 1 mile coast and with extensive sea views.*

**THE RECTORY, RINGWOULD**

Attractive residence, 9 bed, bath, 4 rec, etc Main water and electricity. Garage, etc Gardens. Grounds and paddock **6½ ACRES.** Auction at Canterbury 27th July, with possession.

**GEERING & COLYER, ASHFORD, KENT.**

DAIRY FARM WITH POSSESSION

**SUSSEX**

**East Grinstead and Ashdown Forest**

THE FREEHOLD AGRICULTURAL PROPERTY known as

**OWLETTS FARM**

**Hammerwood, East Grinstead**

comprising modernised farmhouse containing 3 bedrooms, bathroom and w.c. Two living rooms, well equipped kitchen. Main electricity. Detached cottage. Spacious farm buildings include cow house for 44 cows, 2 large covered yards. Modern range of milking parlour for 5-unit Gascoigne Milker Cooling room and dairy, barn. Mixing room with granary over. Stabling Two modern cow houses for 40 cows. The land extends to about **165 ACRES.** Company's water laid on to four tanks and most of the fields are watered. Vacant Possession on completion of purchase. The farm is suitable for a T.T. or Attested herd of cattle with ample accommodation for 40/50 milkers and young stock. Block of four cottages. Three let to weekly tenants, producing £78 per annum, and one with VACANT POSSESSION.

**TURNER, RUDGE & TURNER**

will sell the above property by auction in two lots at the Oak Room, Whitehall, East Grinstead on Thursday 18th July, 1946, at 3 o'clock precisely (unless previously sold privately) Particulars and Conditions of Sale can be had of the Solicitors: MESSRS. WHITLEY HUGHES & LUSCOMBE, East Grinstead or of the AUCTIONEERS, 29, High Street, East Grinstead (Tel.: 700/1).

**WILTSHIRE DOWNS**

**Easterton, near Devizes, Wiltshire**

*Lavington Station 2 miles, Devizes 7, Marlborough, 17, and Salisbury 19.*

ATTRACTIVE FREEHOLD RESIDENTIAL HOLDING known as

**EASTCOTT HOUSE**

3 reception, 8 bed and dressing rooms, excellent cottage and picturesque farm buildings. Highly productive, easily cultivated and well-watered arable and pasture, lying in a ring fence and extending to about **80 ACRES.** The residence and grounds will be sold with Possession on completion. The remainder is let at a total annual rental of £134 Main electricity. Excellent water supply and modern drainage which

**WOOLLEY & WALLIS**

will sell by Auction (unless previously sold privately) at The Bear Hotel, Devizes, on Thursday 18th July, 1946, at 3 o'clock. As a whole or in 3 lots. Particulars and plans (price 1/-) from the Auctioneers, MESSRS. WOOLLEY & WALLIS, The Castle Auction Mart, Salisbury ('phone 2491), and at Romsey ('phone 129), and Ringwood ('phone 191), or from the Solicitors, MESSRS. GEARE & SON, Gray's Inn Chambers, 20, High Holborn, London, W.C 1

## TO LET

**NEAR BARNSTAPLE, N. DEVON.** Magnificent view of hills and moors, 700 ft. above sea level amidst beautiful surroundings, to let furnished, as from July 22, charming old Residence (partly Georgian) containing 3 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, 2 dressing rooms, convenient domestic offices, bathroom, telephone, and grounds of 1½ acres, with ample outbuildings, orchard and gardens, good stabling and garage. Near Exmoor, and excellent shooting, fishing and hunting. One mile from station, 6 miles from Barnstaple.—To view (by ticket) apply to MESSRS SMYTH-RICHARDS, Estate Agents, 3, Castle Street, Barnstaple.

## FOR SALE

**ALDWICK BAY**, near Bognor. Charming House, overlooking sea. 6 bedrooms. Furnished or unfurnished.—WILKINSON, 62, Grosvenor Street, W.1. Mayfair 0437.

**COAST.** Overlooking sea from cliffs with magnificent views to French coast. A Modern Detached Residence. Six bedrooms, spacious lounge, sun parlour, 2 bathrooms, garage, chauffeur's room, every modern convenience, good-size garden, tennis court. A very desirable residence. Vacant possession. Price, Freehold, £4,000 (or offer) Quote Ref. D21.—G. W. FINN & SONS, 45, Queen Street, Deal (Tel. 11), Also at Canterbury, Faversham and Sandwich.

**COUNTY KERRY.** Amidst the Kerry mountains and Killarney lakes. Attractive perpetual leasehold and part freehold Residential and Sporting Estate on the banks of Caragh Lake, including the well-appointed modern residence "Ard-Na-Sidhe" (11 bedrooms), a five-roomed cottage. Farm and other outbuildings, in all, covering about 20 acres. A really outstanding property of exceptional charm, at a most reasonable price. Vacant possession, owner going abroad.—Full particulars from HAROLD MAYHEW AND CO., Solicitors, 57, Calthorpe Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham 15; and MESSRS. WHITE AND MEARES, Solicitors, 41, St. Stephens Street, Dublin, C.2.

## FOR SALE

**OXTED, SURREY.** Picturesque modern stone-built Residence in perfect garden about 1 Acre Ideal position with delightful southerly aspect. 4 large bedrooms, 2 reception, spacious hall with cloakroom, tiled kitchen with "Aga" cooker, etc. All main services and telephone. In spotless condition throughout and highly recommended at £7,750 Freehold.—MOORE & CO, Surveyors, Carshalton. Tel.: Wallington 2606.

**SHERBORNE, DORSET.** For sale privately with Vacant Possession. The valuable Freehold Residence "Bainton House." 3 reception, 10 bed and dressing rooms, 2 bath. Outbuildings. Gardens All main services. Suitable for private residence, or ideal for high-class private residential hotel.—Joint Agents: MESSRS. SENIOR AND GODWIN, Sherborne: MESSRS. RAWLENCE AND SQUAREY, Sherborne.

**UPPER BEEDING, SUSSEX,** 5 miles Shoreham (main Southern electrified line, London 75 minutes), 8 miles Brighton, £16,000 Agricultural and Residential Estate. Fine old manor house, 7 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 4 reception rooms, usual offices, staff quarters, central heating. Company's water and electricity. Farmhouse, cottage, good farm buildings, 220 acres woodland and one mile important road frontage. Farm let good tenant £147 10s. per annum. To be sold Freehold, Vacant Possession.—Apply, MESSRS. J. ELLMAN BROWN, F.S.I., 24, East Street, Shoreham-by-Sea

**WEST SOMERSET COAST.** Charming small Residential Country Estate, near Bridgwater. Standing very high, although protected and adjacent to moorland. Panoramic views and overlooking Channel to Welsh mountains. Property containing some oak, is approached by entrance drive. 4 bedrooms, 2 dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms, large attractive lounge, drawing room, cloakroom. Separate servants' quarters. Central heating throughout. Main electricity. Private water supply. Garage for three. Stabling. Gardener's bungalow. Grounds include some arable land, woodland, paddock, terraced pleasure gardens and lawns, young orchard and kitchen garden, in all about 19 acres. Inspected and recommended. Freehold, £9,250 or offer.—MESSRS. SYMONDS & POLDEN, Auctioneers, Surveyors, etc., 54, Chapel Road, Worthing. Tel. 5744 (3 lines).

## EXCHANGE

**LONDON.** Flat in West End, rent controlled, 2 large uniquely designed rooms—exchange with or without furniture against lease of small house within four miles of London; preferably London-Portsmouth line. —Box 320.

## WANTED

**ANYWHERE CORNISH COAST.** Wanted, Furnished Bungalow to rent, one or two months, 3 bedrooms, July or August. Rent in advance and references if desired.—Write, Box 321.

**BUCKS OR HERTS,** 30 mile radius London. Wanted to rent, 4-6-bedroom House. Careful tenants, highest references.—Tel. Pinner 5863.

**BERKSHIRE, OXFORDSHIRE** preferred In rolling country, away from built-up areas, Country House wanted. House of character or cottage on big estate Entirely modernised 4-5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Furnished or unfurnished —Write Box No. 10, W. J. MAYLIN, Stationer and Bookseller, 2 Weighhouse Street, London, W.1.

**CARDIFF,** approximately 20 miles radius. Reasonable rent offered for Country House or Villa, 3-4 bedrooms, garage, electric or gas, etc Preferably with some land or paddock attached.—LAMB, 1, St. Isan Road, Heath, Cardiff

**COUNTRY.** A firm of Specialists desires to rent on long lease a property suitable for exhibition flower growing and seed breeding. They must be very large gardens with plenty of glasshouses, together with buildings, lodges, and cottages for staff and house of 8-10 bedrooms with all modern conveniences. There would be no commercial signs. Present staff taken over.—Box 140.

**GLOS-WORCS** preferred. Wanted to buy, Small Farm, 40-60 acres with good house, 5-6 bed. Main electricity.—"125/P," TRESIDDER & CO, 77, South Audley Street, London, W.1.

**HERTS, KENT, SURREY.** A keen applicant wants to buy urgently, £8,000 available. Period House preferred, 6-7 bed.—Particulars to LOFTS & WARNER, 41, Berkeley Square, W.1.

**IRELAND.** Sporting and Residential Properties. Estate managed.—STOKES AND QUIRKE, M.I.A.A., 33, Kildare Street, Dublin. Also at Clonmel and Fethard, Co. Tipperary.

**SUSSEX OR SURREY.** Wanted, Residence or old Farmhouse with 4-5 bedrooms, 3 reception, usual offices, some outbuildings preferred. Few acres of grassland. Main electricity and water installed or available. Up to 5 miles of main line station. Immediate possession not necessary.—Particulars to E. W. MACFARLANE, 29, Portman Avenue, East Sheen, London, S.W.14.

**S. W. LONDON,** preferably 30-50 miles. Country House, minimum 8 bedrooms, mains electric light, usual buildings. Not exceeding 4 acres, buy or rent on lease.—Box 322.

ESTATE

Kensington 1490
Telegrams:
"Estate, Harrods, London"

# HARRODS

34-36, HANS CRESCENT, LONDON, S.W.1

OFFICES

Surrey Offices:
West Byfleet
and Haslemere

c.3

## DEVON AND SOMERSET BORDER

Convenient to picturesque village, about 12 miles from Taunton. Attractive stone-built residence, facing south. Hall, lounge, dining room, 5 bedrooms, bathroom. Cottage, large garage, usual outbuildings, electric light, etc. Beautiful gardens and grounds. Tennis and other lawns.

Kitchen garden, meadowland. In all about

**4 ACRES**

**LOW PRICE FOR QUICK SALE**

HARRODS LTD., 34-36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1 (*Tel.: Kensington* 1490. *Extn.* 807).

IDEAL FOR INSTITUTION, PRIVATE HOTEL, Etc.

## HAMPSHIRE COAST c.4

Uninterrupted sea views with views of THE ISLE OF WIGHT AND THE NEEDLES.

FASCINATING LATE GEORGIAN RESIDENCE With hall, 2 rotunda rooms, handsome suite of reception rooms, 20 bed and dressing rooms, 4 bathrooms, complete offices. Garage for 2 cars. Stabling for 4. Entrance lodge. Co.'s electric light and power. Co.'s water and telephone. Independent hot-water supply. Central heating.

MAGNIFICENT PLEASURE GROUNDS with clumps of rhododendrons, tennis and other lawns, well-stocked walled kitchen garden, glasshouses, together with

**ABOUT ¼ MILE OF PRIVATE BEACH.**

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**1 ACRE OF GROUND**

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of most pleasing design and elevation. Four reception, 10 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, maids' sitting room. MAIN WATER and ELECTRICITY. CENTRAL HEATING.

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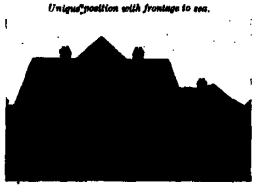

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**Extending to about ONE ACRE**

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CO.'S ELECTRIC LIGHT AND WATER, RADIATORS, GARAGE FOR TWO CARS.
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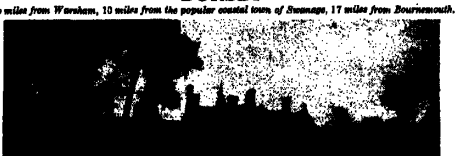

Beautifully timbered and well-kept gardens and grounds with wide spreading lawns, lovely flowering shrubs and trees, productive walled kitchen garden. Tennis court. Woodland and rhododendron growths, etc. Main electricity. Drainage to septic tank. Water supply. *The whole comprising an area of* nearly **285 ACRES.**

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The property is in excellent repair throughout, having been decorated and modernised at very considerable cost, and it is so planned that it can be run with a minimum of labour. The accommodation comprises: 5 bedrooms (4 fitted lavatory basins h. and c.), 3 well-equipped bathrooms, heated linen room, lounge hall with gents' cloakroom, lounge, dining room, morning room, sun lounge opening on to garden (suitable for a billiards room), kitchen and compact domestic offices. Brick garage for 2 cars. Well-kept garden with greenhouse.

**PRICE £10,000** Held on lease expiring December 25, 1991, at an annual ground rent of £22 10s.

Vacant Possession will be given on completion of the purchase.
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*By order of the Executors of O. R. H. Bury, deceased.*

**In a magnificent position facing the New Forest, close to Southampton Water**

**The Delightful Freehold Residential Estate**

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Modern Detached Residence containing 5 bedrooms, bathroom, 3 reception rooms, kitchen and offices. Garage accommodation for 2 cars. Electric light from private plant. Main water.

Modern detached bungalow let to gardener who would remain on the property.

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**On the delightful Boscombe Manor Estate, Detached Modern Freehold Residence**

Well constructed of brick and rough-cast, with slated roof, close to the sea and main shopping centre. Five bedrooms, bathroom, 3 reception rooms, kitchen and offices. Excellent garage. All main services. Well matured garden with lawns, flower beds, and borders and crazy-paved paths.

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*Overlooking the sea.* *South aspect.*

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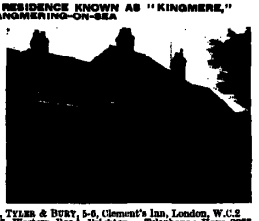
**FREEHOLD MARINE RESIDENCE KNOWN AS "KINGMERE," ANGMERING-ON-SEA**

Six bedrooms, 2 modern bathrooms, 4 reception rooms, cloakroom, maid's sitting room, ample domestic offices.

Delightful grounds of about 1 acre including tennis court.

Valuable frontage to foreshore.

**To be sold by Auction at The Old Ship Hotel, Brighton, on Tuesday, 16th July, 1946.**



Solicitors: Messrs. WOOLLEY, TYLER & BURY, 5-6, Clement's Inn, London, W.C.2
Auctioneers: FOX & SONS, 117, Western Road, Brighton. Telephone: Hove 2277 and 7379 (4 lines).

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*The subject of an article in* COUNTRY LIFE. *2 miles from a good Golf Course, within a short motor run of Bournemouth.*

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*the sort of building you need*

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*Five Good Reasons for using a famous Cartridge*

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THE MOST EFFICIENT YET EVOLVED

1. An Air-chamber replaces the old-fashioned felt wad, and acts as a "cushion" which absorbs much of the force of the inevitable backward kick.

2. The Pneumatic Air-chamber Cork Wad, combined with the Domed Cards, makes a perfect gas check, which increases velocity, and gives greater killing power.

3. As the full force of the explosive gases is always used for driving, even at a long range Pneumatic Cartridges are deadly. You will enjoy this extra power.

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*If you have difficulty in getting supplies locally, please write direct to the factory.*

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*Governing Director: L. Gordon Sandeman.*



*The Beauty of*

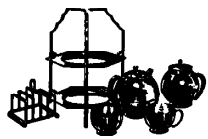
**Olde Hall**

FINEST STAINLESS STEEL

# TABLEWARE

Every article is a perfect example of true craftsmanship and possesses its own individual attraction. At present the demand for export restricts our supplies for the home market. We look forward to the day when we shall be free to offer this beautiful ware to every home.

***As Beautiful as Old Silver and it will never tarnish.***



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J. & J. WIGGIN LTD., OLD HALL WORKS, BLOXWICH, WALSALL.

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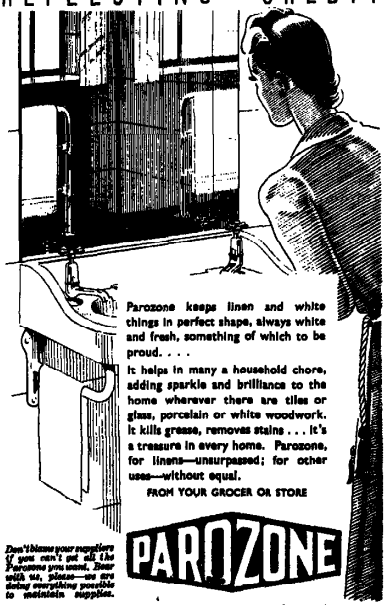

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FROM YOUR GROCER OR STORE

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DOES MORE THAN BLEACH

**"Mother used to dread washday— I don't get it!"**

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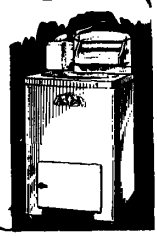

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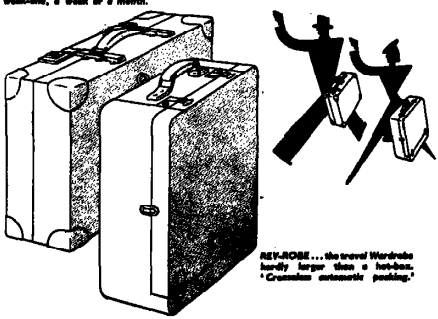

*REV-ROBE . . . the travel Wardrobe hardly larger than a hat-box. 'Crease-free automatic packing.'*

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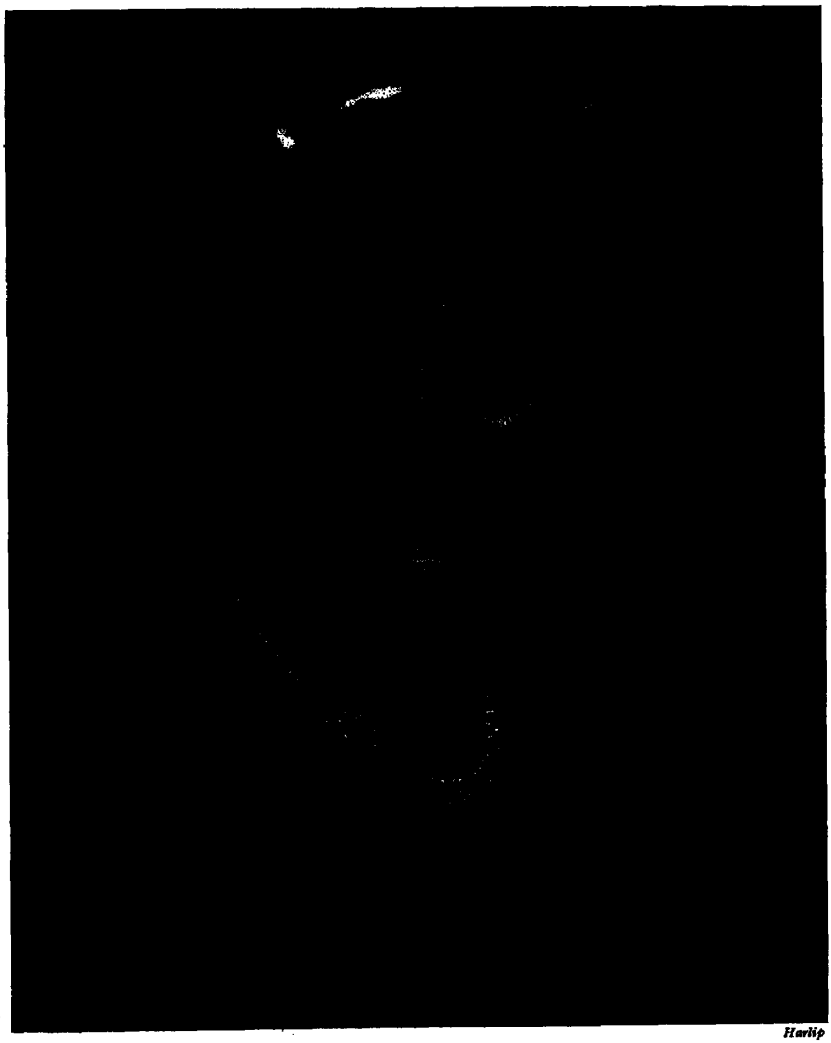
The Portsmouth Road
On this historic highway in 1821, a dazzling speed record was set up by the stage-coach "Rocket" which covered its "seventy-one miles, seven furlongs" in nine hours! The stage-coach has been supplanted by the motor-coach and motor-car, which can complete the journey in a fifth of the time—thanks greatly to John Boyd Dunlop's invention, the first pneumatic tyre, without which contemporary road transport.

# COUNTRY LIFE

Vol. C No. 2581 JULY 5, 1946



*Harlip*

MISS MARY MARKHAM

Miss Markham is the elder daughter of Sir Charles Markham, Bt., and the late Lady Delamere. She has served for four and a half years with the A.T.S.

# COUNTRY LIFE

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## FOOD POLICY

IN this country people still expect to be told frankly the full facts that underlie Government decisions. Farmers and housewives will not be convinced of the necessity for cuts in livestock production until the position in other countries has been honestly stated. If the Cabinet are wise they will make sure that all the facts are ascertained and nothing hidden. It may be inevitable for us to reduce the output from our dairy cows, pigs and poultry in order to provide the bare necessities of food for women and children in Europe, but so far the reports brought home by visitors to Belgium, Holland, Denmark, Sweden and Switzerland do not indicate that there is anything like a famine in Western Europe as a whole. Other peoples are feeding better than we are to-day, and their Governments are promising an early remission of rationing altogether.

Then there is the strange fact that Czechoslovakia, which is on the list of U.N.R.R.A. for food relief, is buying hatching eggs, pedigree sheep and pedigree boars to build up her livestock numbers at a time when farmers in Britain have to slaughter pigs and poultry wholesale because there are not the feeding-stuffs for them. It should not be an impossible task for a small mission of clear-headed men to put the whole picture in true perspective.

There is confusion, too, about our home food production programme. Farmers are being besought to grow more wheat for next year's harvest, but the wheat prices remain unsatisfactory compared with the return from barley growing, and the farming community is left in doubt about the country's real needs. A further wage increase takes effect this month, and the fixed prices for all farm produce are being revised upwards. To meet the farmers' justifiable claims the prices and increases will need to be substantial, because there will be smaller quantities of milk and other livestock products over which the increased charge can now be spread. This dislocation in food policy has wide repercussions. The Chancellor of the Exchequer deplores his inability to allow more remissions in the Purchase Tax on household essentials, but he explains that he is facing the loss of £48,000,000 in beer duty.

Even at this time of food crisis Government Departments seem incapable of co-ordinating their efforts. By the Civil Aviation Bill one Minister is taking drastic powers to acquire more agricultural land for airfields without even the provision that he must consult the Minister of Agriculture before he sterilises good farming land. Is not the time overdue for food production in this country to be given first priority? The farmer is doing his best to feed the industrial millions. He is looking for an unequivocal lead and help rather than hindrance from Whitehall.

## OVERSPILL AND AGRICULTURE

THE Rural District Councils which were created half a century ago, in an attempt to systematise a chaos of services most of which ended at the parish boundary, have had a time of severe trial in a largely unsympathetic world. They are often accused of unenterprising apathy and compared, to their great disadvantage, with their urban rivals. This is a manifest injustice. Except where they have gained in rating value from some form of urban development they and their constituent parishes have often remained as poor as the mice in the parish churches—quite unable to cope with large scale reorganisation of services over their areas. Nor has their growing dependence on the County Councils made things easier, and in face of many attacks it would not be surprising had they capitulated to any new form of regional administration which relieved them of a thankless task. No local authorities, however, have shown more self-respect and independence, and now that they are assured of a better showing in the financial picture, it is quite evident that they are determined to survive. Their present danger arises chiefly from the often unbridled ambitions of County Boroughs with unlimited capacity for overspill, who are now claiming increases in area up to 200 per cent. All these claims will come before the Local Government Boundary Commission, and it is to be hoped that this new judicial body will feel itself competent to take into account more general factors than the mere existing efficiency of the services which large and wealthy urban authorities can so easily provide, but which, till now, the rural authorities could not. Otherwise the scales will be heavily weighted against the rural authorities, and they will be in danger of worse financial trouble as the towns expand, if not of actual obliteration.

## THE HIDDEN STREAM

*BELOW—warm, swollen plains where fat things lap and wallow;*
*Above—proud mountains lift commanding crags;*
*Between these lie ways wonderful*
*Which few men seek or follow.*

*Amongst the scented blossom, the fronds and swift wings beating,*
*Of these faint paths, a limpid rivulet flows*
*Hidden from all but eager eyes,*
*Its cool, quiet song repeating.*

*No hooves of beasts here plunge, no traveller unwary*
*Can find this stream, whose waters are so clear*
*That seeing is to feel unclean,*
*Foul breath'd, athirst, and weary.*

*Beyond no seas this place, behind no lowering mountain,*
*But ever waiting here at hand, at heart;*
*These shaded ways still ache for feet,*
*For lips yearns this pure fountain.*

D. W. REYNOLDS.

## MILITARY OCCUPATION

ALL over the country, War Department danger signs and barbed wire entanglements remind us how much of this land is still under military occupation. Gradually our beaches are being cleared and our piers mended, but an official map published the other day showed twenty-six coastal areas which have been mined and are still "unstirilised" from the lethal point of view. There are similar and perhaps larger areas on the downs and other common lands where all kinds of target and battle practice went on during the war. We have, however, the satisfaction at least of promises that these areas will sooner or later be restored to public enjoyment. More serious by far is the position with regard to the Isle of Purbeck, which is one of many areas that are all-important from the point of view of amenity and of planning National Parks, but which have been adopted by one or other of the Services, and having been found pleasant and socially convenient by the adopters seem doomed to remain under military occupation till the end of time. That 9,800 acres of requisitioned land between Lulworth Cove and Kimmeridge Bay should continue indefinitely as a tank gunnery school is an outrage to be defended only on the ground that other more suitable areas would be inaccessible and socially unattractive to certain personnel concerned. Apart from the natural beauty of this unspoilt coast, it is world-famous as a classic geological area, its ancient earthworks are of the utmost importance to the archæologist, it is a haunt of rare plants and of at least three of our rarer birds. Incidentally, the N.F.U. estimates that we lose more than 400,000 gallons of milk a year as part of the price we are paying for this piece of vandalism!

## THE CULT OF THE WINDOW-BOX

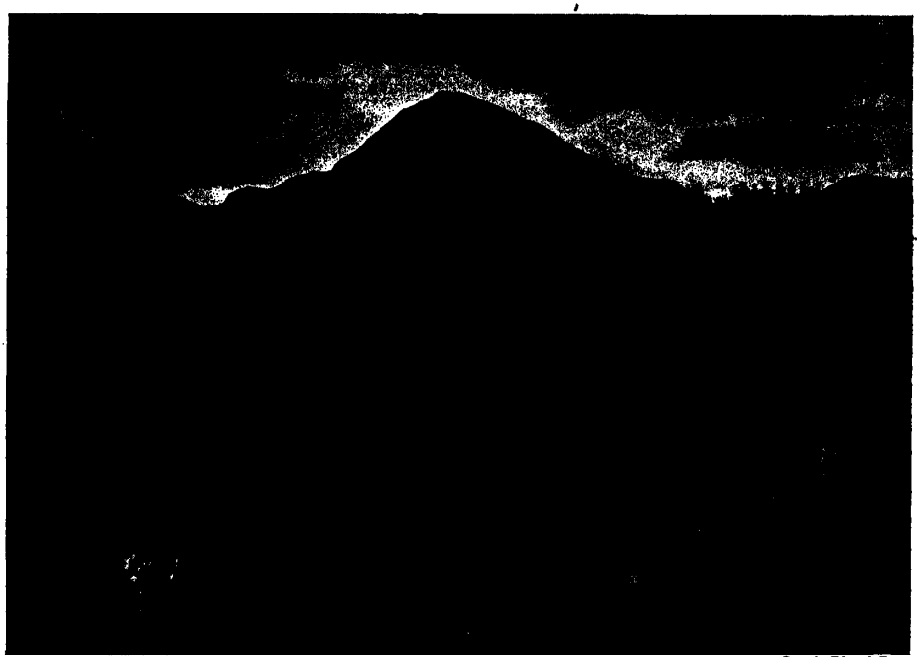
NOT the least contribution to the gaiety of London during the Victory celebrations was made by the richly dight window-boxes which suddenly appeared to enliven façades war-scarred and unpainted these six or seven years. The flags and the banners have departed, but, happily, some of the window-boxes remain. They are going to be allowed to remain on Government buildings for the duration of the summer, and the Ministry of Works has undertaken to consider the suggestion that they should become an annual feature. Some of the more enterprising clubs and commercial firms have joined in the floral display, and it is much to be hoped that the cult of the window-box may be generally revived to brighten the drab surroundings in which Londoners are compelled to live and work to-day. Red, white and blue are naturally much in evidence, the first two supplied by those old standbys, the geranium and the marguerite, while dwarf hydrangeas have done their best to provide the blue—albeit an Air Force blue. But another year we need not be confined to patriotic colour schemes. Petunias thrive well in window-boxes and look very gay; earlier in the year there is all the range of the bulbs from crocuses to tulips; and there is something to be said, particularly in these days, for the calceolaria-geranium combination beloved of our grandparents, if only to remind us that there were once scrambled eggs and tomatoes.

## DWINDLING SPECIES

A PAPER on *The Decline of Oyster Populations* in a recent issue of *Nature*, by Dr. F. Gross and J. C. Smyth, of Edinburgh University, contains a paragraph of unusual interest to naturalists and conservationists in general. It reads :—

> It would seem that when an animal population has been reduced below a certain minimum the trend towards extinction continues although the main cause of the decline—over-fishing in the case of the oyster—has ceased to operate. The explanation of this behaviour may perhaps be found in the circumstance that under adverse conditions approaching the limit of adaptation the community will die out unless there are sufficient genetic variants present which can survive these conditions and establish the breeding stock of a population increasingly better adapted to the prevailing set of conditions.

Here would seem to be a possible explanation of the position and trend of such birds as the chough and the kite, and even (at some future date, if no improvement occurs) of the corn-crake, wryneck and barn-owl. And here is, in effect, a warning against the optimistic notion that a species can be allowed to decline to rarity level and then be saved by strict conservation at the last moment. It is suggested that the oyster situation might be repaired by the "mass-hybridisation of at least twenty varieties from different geographical communities, and particularly from northern rather than southern communities"; but it would not be quite so easy to apply comparable measures to higher forms of life, nor do those higher forms produce—like oysters—a million offspring.



*Captain Edward Grace*

A CORRIE LOCHAN IN GLENCOE

# A COUNTRYMAN'S NOTES

*By*

**Major C. S. JARVIS**

I AM not really qualified to give any opinion on corn-growing as I did not start my career as a British farmer until forced to join the ranks of the agriculturists in the interests of my hens in 1940. At the same time I am not confessing that I know nothing whatsoever about crops, as in other lands I have grown third-class rice, which was almost uneatable—though I should be very glad of it now; second-class maize, which was afflicted with only two serious insect pests; and barley which was nearly first-class as regards grain, but almost totally deficient in straw. With this small experience behind me I ask of those better qualified to know, what are the good points of dredge corn, and why in this country do we sow a mixture of three growths—barley, oats and peas—which do not come to maturity at the same time, and all of which, it seems to me, resent the presence of the other corns and go out of their way to show it? The barley usually ripens before the oats and, being over-ripe when harvested, drops a considerable percentage of the grains on the field before being carried, or the oats, in a hurry to catch up with the barley, have time only to form husks and omit the essential kernels. I am not quite certain what the peas do, as in the seed corn I obtain there are so few of them that they are only able to establish about ten observation posts in a one-acre field, and wood-pigeons soon locate them.

* * *

THE only reason I can see for growing dredge corn is that it is the one crop which officialdom allows the harassed poultryman to sow for his hens, and it is the sort of thing one would expect from officialdom. If the Minister of Agriculture would like a candid opinion on his selection by those fully qualified to give an opinion, he may come and inspect my poultry runs after the birds have been fed with dredge corn, when he will see the ground white with empty husks.

Those whose weary, thankless task it is to feed hens night and morning in these days when the food one has to offer them is almost as unsatisfactory as that which one has to eat oneself will have noticed that hens comment volubly on the fare provided, and when one has had to listen to these remarks for over six years, one learns the language, and understands it. I have noticed that there is always a strong under-current of adverse criticism—a running commentary of complaint—when the mash provided has been eked out considerably with boiled chat potatoes, and at the present time, when the heavily whiskered flabby relics of last year's crop figure largely in the meals now that the early potatoes have arrived, the remarks sound almost unprintable.

On the days when my birds receive a ration of the dredge corn I have grown, the wild enthusiasm displayed when the first grains fall is soon disseminated, and the remark one hears in every corner of the run is: "Why doesn't the silly fool give us only barley, and why do these damned empty husks have to be thrown to us?" I wish I could get them to grasp that barley is required for beer, and that the "workers" of Great Britain must have their beer. If it is pointed out that a considerable proportion of these "workers" are on strike, the answer is that having more time on their hands they require more beer. Then again we are constantly adding to the numbers of the real "workers," and shortly that very leisured class, the G.P. doctors of the land, are to be enrolled in the ranks. It is presumed that when the doctors qualify for the rank of "worker" they will endeavour to live up to the standard expected, but I do not know what is going to happen in the future when a man severs his radial artery, or develops acute appendicitis, at a time when all the doctors and surgeons of the area are on strike for another 5d. an hour.

* * *

IT is said—there may be no truth in the rumour, of course—but it is said that the doctors of a neighbouring town have formed themselves into a syndicate, and acquired for a term of years the sole fishing rights on a long carrier of our local river. This carrier, which is approximately a mile and a half long, and is of such dimensions that it might rank as a stream, was not so very long ago a sanctuary and haven of rest for some of the rare indigenous trout from the main river. The water conditions were more to their liking than those of the big river, pike were few and far between, and in the days before the war I never failed to pull up on the little brick bridge—often to the sound of angry honks from behind—to look at and admire three very big fellows who were generally to be seen lurking in the shadow of the arch. I regret to say that they disappeared from the water somewhere about the time when our American allies occupied the local aerodrome. I have often wondered why trout lie up under road bridges: whether it is because they like the situation, the shade from the arch, and the complimentary remarks of the discerning public, or whether they do it out of cussedness to fill the passing angler with envy and covetousness, and also to cause him to pull up suddenly in his car to the intense annoyance of anyone behind.

It is the intention of the doctors, I am told, to net this stream of its coarse fish and stock it with trout from the neighbouring hatchery, and, from what I know of the carrier and its possibilities, I should say the local G.P.s and special-

ists in the syndicate are on to a very good thing. The only possible fly in the ointment, now that the doctors of this country are to be conscripted, drilled, regimented and brought into line, is the uneasy feeling that the Government may endeavour to control their sports as well as their professional activities, and take as much interest in their fishing rods as they will soon in their stethoscopes. Vast quantities of paper might be expended on forms showing the number of fish introduced originally and the numbers estimated to be in existence at the end of each fishing week, together with a nominal roll of all doctors in the syndicate, showing time spent on idle pursuits to the detriment of their calling with their total catch, which would have to be worked out on the "fish intake per doctor hour" system.

* * *

IT is our turn in this corner of England to suffer from a real plague of slugs such as are reported from year to year in other parts. The slugs, like the poor, are always with us, but in this area in the past there has always been a certain amount of restraint about the activities of the slug. Two or three comfortable-looking fellows would be found under a stone if one turned it, but if one goes in for the pastime of turning stones one must expect to find something repellent. Also in a row of lettuces a few leaves of a plant or two would show well scalloped edges, here and there a dwarf bean would poke up through the soil a neck from which the head had been neatly severed, and the finest strawberry on the bunch would often have an alderman-sized slug deeply embedded in its crimson flank. The depredations, however, did not go much farther than this, and an application of one of the many slug remedies would enable the gardener to hold his own, which is as much as, or even more than, he dare expect.

All this is written in the past tense as this year the situation is very different, for one day one will look with satisfaction at a well-defined row of pale green shoots where one sowed the lettuce seed, and the following morning one will decide one must be suffering from hallucinations and "seeing things," as not one trace of green is visible. The row of peas, which on the first day one felt one had sown far too thickly for proper prolific growth, looks more or less in accordance with the garden book's instruction on the second, a trifle on the thin side on the third, while on the fourth one has to go and look at the docket at the end of the row to ascertain if one has sown peas there or not. Also the numbers of the slugs are such that easily accessible growths on the surface of the soil are insufficient for their needs, and this has resulted in the evolution of a pioneer type, which have learned to climb to dizzy heights where they can cut off dahlia buds, and even the shoots of buddleia and other shrubs.

* * *

THERE are any amount of slug exterminators, deterrents, and poisons on the market: so many, in fact, that when one enters the seedsman's shop one notices that far more space is taken up with the various preparations to protect seeds and seedlings than with the seeds themselves. All of these may be quite effective if the weather plays its part, but when every day and every night there is a downpour of rain lasting for several hours, these potent chemicals are washed deep into the soil, possibly finding their way ultimately to the neighbouring river to exercise their destructive effect on the fly which should hatch for the trout's benefit.

Years ago, when a slug-infested garden in Dorset nearly broke my heart, I employed a kill-or-cure remedy which was recommended to me by the local farmer. I obtained a load of burnt limestone from the neighbouring kiln, slaked it off during the day, and that night—a warm, damp, muggy one that slugs appreciate to such an extent that even the old and infirm sally forth to amuse themselves—I went out and scattered the hot lime over every corner of the garden. The following morning the surface of the soil looked as if it has experienced a slight fall of snow, but on every inch of the white surface there was a small greenish patch, and the small greenish patch was all that was left of a cremated slug. In one night I had exterminated almost every slug in the garden, but as I had also exterminated most of the young growth I was trying to protect, it is not a cure I shall try again.

* * *

AT the present time I am using another old-time remedy recommended by the same farmer, one which dates back to the days before chemicals played any part in agriculture. This is the use of the sharp spiny beard or whiskers of barley, which is to be found in a heap where the threshing machine worked last autumn, and which is called "hawes" in these parts, "cavins" over the border in Dorset, and has probably a different name in every county in England. In the Middle East it is called *tibn* and the poor old camel has to eat it. This spread generously—and, as it costs nothing, one can be generous—round everything one wishes to protect is far more effective in constantly wet weather than any of the modern products, for the slugs abhor it. One realises what the slugs must suffer through coming in contact with it when one works with the threshing party of a barley stack on a hot autumn day, and experiences the sensation of a hundred fragments of needle-like "cavins" which have stuck in the middle of one's perspiring back. It must be even worse for the slug, for his back is far stickier, and he has no hands with which to scratch himself!

# IN BEDDGELERT FOREST

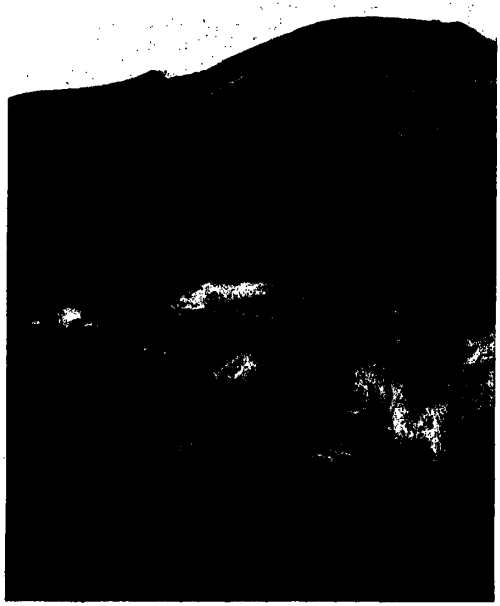
*Written and Illustrated by*
**J. D. U. WARD**

AFTER the many long weeks of winter spent at an office desk it was good once again to subside on a tussock, to pull off my shoes and to shake out the accumulation of dead, dry flowers of heather. Those simple actions, dull or even tedious in themselves, were raised by association—by nostalgic remembrance of past days on moor and in forest—into a positive pleasure.

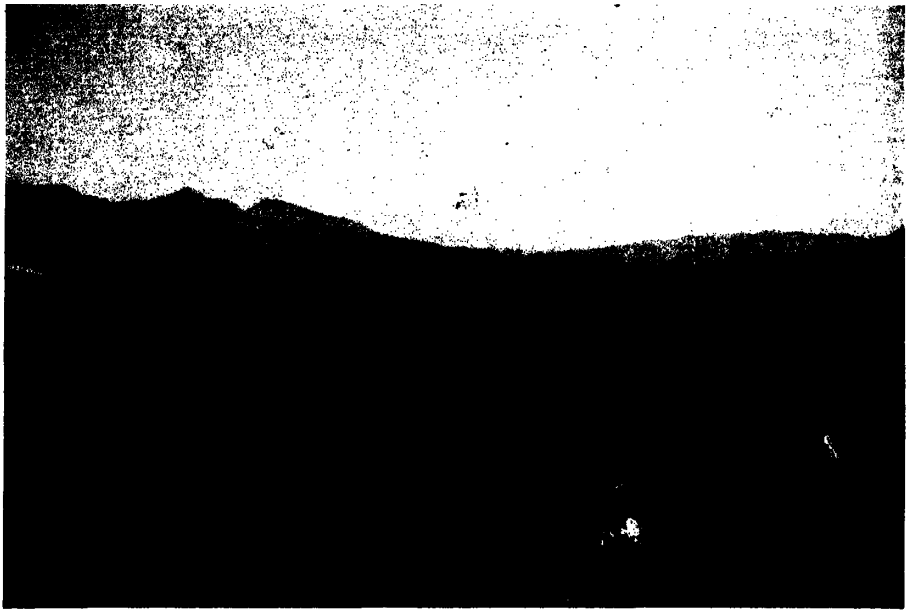
Now there was a new joy added to the old. There were not only the familiar delights of typical foothill country—a combination of sheep pasture, forest and rocky outcrops, all channelled by swift, small streams, bright and musical, and backed by mountains whose crests still retained the snows of winter—but also Carnarvonshire was a new and quite unfamiliar county to me, and the voices which came from above (*tchuff, tchuff*) were unknown. The three dark birds circling with the buoyant grace of buzzards were evidently choughs, which I had thought survived only on a few parts of the coast. But here, not far from Beddgelert and near the 2,000 ft. contour, they still nest in the deserted copper-mines. Below, among the larger trees, the pine marten (a much rarer animal than the polecat) still goes his primeval way, with his chances of survival notably improved by the return of the forests which are his natural habitat.

Beddgelert Forest begins a mile to the north-west of the village, and a good walker, starting from the camp or hostel near the forester's house, can make the summit of Snowdon in less than two hours. Of the forest's 3,000 acres, about 1,000 have been planted, and not more than another 500 are plantable, so that within the forest there will always be open spaces, where the views of mountains will dominate the scene. On this particular spring day the bleating of lambs, the trilling of curlews and the cries of two peewits were mingled in the lower sheep-pastures, and the upper air, which at one time held the choughs, was often occupied by buzzards and ravens, sometimes in half-serious combat. It was then early for birds not resident during the winter and I saw neither ring-ouzel nor dipper nor yet grey wagtail—typical birds of the high hills and mountain streams—and only one wheatear.

More remarkable still, in two days we observed not a single rabbit. When we met the forester (who told us where the choughs nested)

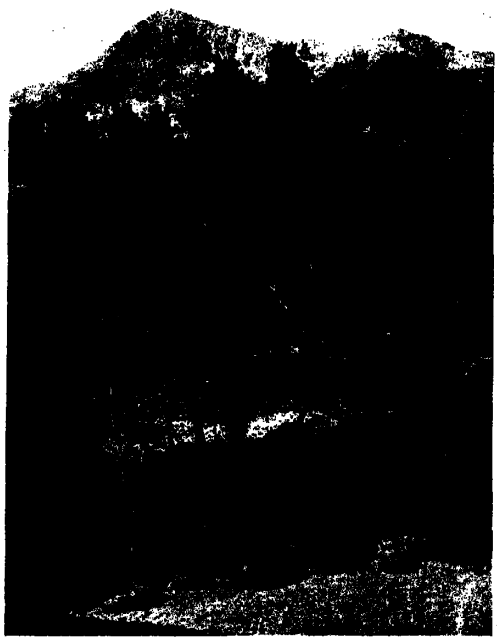


IMMATURE SPRUCE IN SCALE BESIDE A MINIATURE SALMON RIVER. THE PLANTATIONS OF THE FORESTRY COMMISSION'S HIGH ELEVATION EXPERIMENT CAN BE SEEN ON THE HILLSIDE IN THE BACKGROUND



LOOKING SOUTH-EAST ACROSS BEDDGELERT FOREST. THE DRAINED LAKE MENTIONED IN THE ACCOMPANYING ARTICLE IS TO THE RIGHT OF THE CENTRE OF THE PICTURE

(*Right*) NATURAL OAK SCRUB AND A VIEW OF MOEL HEBOG FROM THE NORTH-EAST



I asked him about his fortunate freedom from the worst of all forest pests: had he badgers to keep them down? A few, but this was not much of a place for rabbits anyhow. He had many foxes. What did the foxes live on, if there were no rabbits? Voles—and the voles had done serious damage to the trees in some parts of the forest. Obviously the foxes were his friends? Yes, but they were very numerous, and other people's interests had to be considered also, so that it was necessary to limit their increase. I glanced at his Lakeland terrier, who looked businesslike.

There were a few pheasants about, but we saw only three wood-pigeons. That, said the forester, was where the peregrine falcons did good work. But when chickens were about, they were devils. And last year he'd brought back three fantails from Carnarvon. The first day he let them out a falcon had one; the second day another went; and the third day the last was taken. I commented that white pigeons would be visible a long way off, to a peregrine; and an academic ecologist, when told of the matter, later remarked, "A very nice example of a species' failure to survive in an unsuitable habitat." But it must have been galling to lose one's fantails so swiftly.

Beddgelert's high elevation experiment, planted by the Forestry Commission in 1929 to test the suitability of various trees for establishment at the higher levels, is an obvious and interesting feature of several general views of the forest. It is stretched—like a rug thrown on a sofa-back for display—up a steep mountain slope. The simple, rectangular pattern made by the plots of different species is well defined at the lower end (1,300 feet) and in the centre, but at the top it seems to be worn very thin, for the site was chosen partly for maximum exposure and no tree loves being planted 1,800 feet high on a windswept Welsh mountain.

Walking across some rough ground on the way to the experiment, we chanced upon a small heap of empty ·303 cases. "Military training?" I enquired. The forester nodded. "They used all that stuff on concentrated fire into the forest. I asked them, couldn't they shoot at one of the many bare stretches of mountainside, but they took no notice. Now I've got broken leaders and wounded trees all through that area. Daftness! But they showed a bit more sense with this stretch of derelict railway. They used to push some of the old trucks up the narrow-gauge line and then set

them running downhill so that they made perfect targets for anti-tank rifles."

We crossed a valley bottom, only three years planted with Norway spruce and still thickly clad with *Molinia caerulea*, the blue grass of the mountains, now dead and dried to a pale shade of beige. "I should be afraid of cigarette-ends here," I said. "Yes, but one can only take every possible precaution, make all the obvious preparations and a few not-so-obvious for fighting any fire that does occur, and then not worry."

It was a sensible attitude, but a man might well have felt heavily burdened with the charge of so much beauty (for Beddgelert must be one of the loveliest of all forests in Britain) at a time when fire-risks were severe, especially in an area which the public was more or less invited or encouraged to visit.

Soon we were hopping over peat-drains, dug four feet deep. The men had brought up many pieces of old bog oak, relics of trees that doubtless grew here more than a millennium before a domineering English king exhibited his baby son as first Prince of Wales in the castle eight or nine miles north of the spot on which we stood.

Such ground as this presents the forester with complex problems: there have been promising experiments, but several questions remain unanswered. Newly planted Norway spruce or other trees respond to the boost of a phosphate, but they later go into check. No forester could be confident of what to do when he saw the *Molinia* interspersed with such depressing indicators as bog myrtle and bog asphodel and knew that below lay four or more feet of peat. Where there were rushes and mosses, the prospects were better, and some trees were going away well.

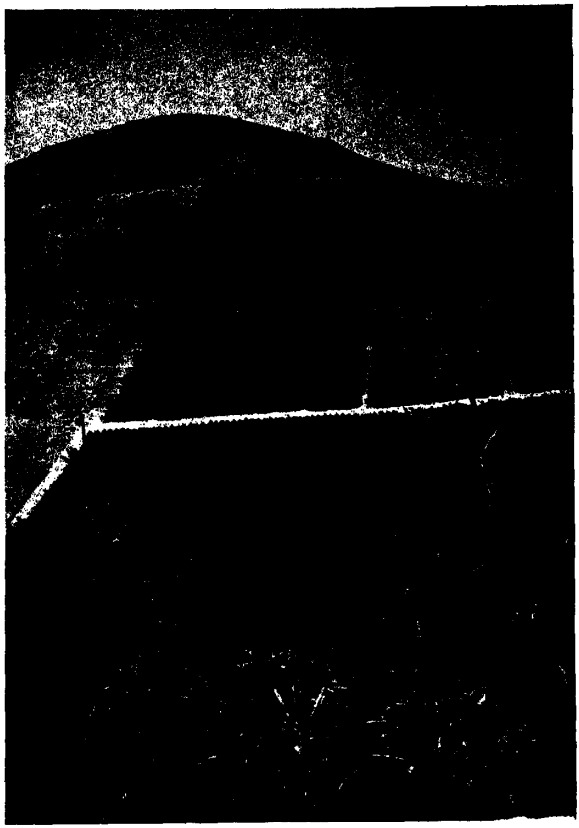
We were soon out of the worst area and into a mixed compartment where the several different species were planted in groups, which gave an effect of variety and constantly changing interest. The silver fir *Abies nobilis* was doing very well and the Serbian spruce (*Picea ormoriha*) a relatively new forest tree for Britain, looked most promising; there were the familiar Douglas fir, Sitka spruce and Japanese larch; outstandingly graceful and full of vigour was the western hemlock (*Tsuga heterophylla*). In some places the lower branches brashed from the *Tsuga* had struck where they had fallen on the moist ground, and the same thing seemed to be happening, though less frequently, with *Picea ormoriha*, and *Thuya plicata*. One of Nature's whims: here that occurred by accident, yet a furlong back, on ground not greatly dissimilar, trees could be established only doubtfully and at considerable expense.

We climbed to the base of the high elevation experiment and sat down just below it to enjoy lunch and the view, to the east, of Snowdon's white crest through the spikes of Norway spruce leaders. We were certainly lucky with the weather: no rain, plenty of sun, and Snowdon was now quite free of cloud. Two hours before, the wind had seemed to be playing at dressing up the mountain, which one minute would be heavily hooded with dense cloud, next lightly veiled with semi-transparent mist, and next adorned with a pearl-grey collar, hung round the neck (as it were) while three hundred feet of pointed head was left in the sunshine above.

To the south, beyond the forest's boundary (and to the right or west of those plantations which stretched back down the valley at whose misty end lay Aberglaslyn Pass) rose the hump of Moel Hebog. Pointing south-west, the forester said that there was a small asbestos mine high on that mountain, but most of the old workings nearer to us were disused slate-quarries, and it was on the waste out-turn of one that we later found stagshorn moss and the rare parsley fern. I glanced at the map for names: Bwlch y Ddwy-elor, Dol-Evan-Gethin, Cwm Trwsgyl.

The plantation behind us, that had looked rug-like at a distance, was full of interest and information for the professional forester, but I noticed that apparently as an afterthought there had been planted up the full length, and just outside the original experiment, lines of beech and *Abies nobilis*. It was interesting that the beech seemed to be vigorous and healthy (though in shapes quite other than those required for timber!) up to about 1,500 feet, while the line of the *Abies*, which I had associated with the lower slopes and the moist valleys, apparently survived right to the 1,800 ft. contour.

The steepness of the slope was prodigious, and we were told that this was one of the very few plantations in England and Wales to have suffered avalanche damage—from the slipping of snowdrifts as opposed to mere snowbreak of individual trees from the direct falling of snow.



A CLOSER VIEW OF THE HIGH ELEVATION EXPERIMENT, SHOWING HOW THE PLANTATIONS THIN OUT TOWARDS THE SUMMIT OF THE SLOPE

We made our way home by a rough route, a large part of which led over rocks and heather rather than through forest. There seemed to be no silver birch here (nor yet down in the valley, where there was some natural scrub oak whose bark was nearly as silvery as any birch's) but only a very few indigenous rowans or mountain ashes and an occasional old Scotch pine or Norway spruce. These are relics of 19th-century estate plantings and interesting because they show, by their modest size and distorted habit, how inhospitable is the terrain.

Our way led through another experiment with small groups of unexpected species: *Sequoia sempervirens*, the giant redwood, doing only moderately well; *Taxodium distichum*, the swamp cypress, failing completely; two or three *Abies*, flourishing; and various species whose very names were new to me. Here the ground suggested a natural large-scale rock garden. The variety of the plantings, with the background of mountains whose colours seemed to be ever changing with sun and shade from pale terra cotta or the olive of a pheasant's egg to blue-violet, combined to produce effects of memorable beauty. It was not a country to be enjoyed to the full by anyone wearing either sandals or silk stockings; even an under-forty might begin to murmur "Bellows to mend."

Coming down through the newly thinned Japanese larches we flushed a couple of mallard from a puddled hollow where there had been a lake until the water leaked away through a defective dam at one end. When we were again beside one of the little streams the forester remarked how small salmon came up even so high as this, where the water might in places be barely 30 inches wide and 20 inches deep. I suggested that, when forest workers were about, an uncertain amount of human energy and ingenuity might perhaps be exerted to save the fish the trouble of the hazardous journey back to the sea. The forester grinned.

Walking by the stream, iron-dark and silver, I noticed as we were nearing home how the young trees seemed to be perfectly in scale. It is almost a truism that forest trees under 25 years of age are dull, but here, by a miniature salmon river, as it was, the immature spruces (say 15-20 years old) were really charming. In truth, the scene is perhaps better now, and will be for the next five years, than it is likely to be 40 years hence. Then people will be remarking the stateliness and dignity of the trees and the wonderful stands of timber rather than the present boyhood's paradise of everything in miniature—even mountains so shaped that they might be not 3,000 but 13,000 feet high.

# AN EARLY TUDOR BEDSTEAD

By RALPH EDWARDS

AMONG the war-time acquisitions of the Department of Woodwork at the Victoria and Albert Museum one of the most notable, and the earliest in date, is a carved oak bedstead, probably made about 1525-40. It was in the possession of Mrs. Bellamy, formerly Miss F. M. Machel, of Crackenthorpe Hall, near Appleby, Westmorland, until her death in 1943, having descended to her from her family. The bedstead was acquired, when the contents of Mrs. Bellamy's home in Cheltenham were dispersed, by Major Clift, and he generously handed it over at the price he paid for it to the National Art Collections Fund, by which it was presented to the Museum.

Crackenthorpe Hall was largely reconstructed in 1629, but the Machels have owned lands in Crackenthorpe since Henry II's reign, and "seem to have continued and resided at this place longer than any other family of note in any other place in the county"—as Nicholson observes in *The History and Antiquities of Westmorland and Cumberland.*

Bedsteads dating from the first half of the sixteenth century which have escaped drastic restoration are of the greatest rarity. This example represents the intermediate link, hitherto missing, between the fragments of Gothic bedsteads—sets of posts and headboards in the Museum collection—and the fully-developed Elizabethan type.

Like a celebrated example in the Saffron Walden Museum in Essex, this bedstead dates from a time when the mediæval type—a light framework covered with woven or embroidered hangings—was giving place to "stande beddes" of more solid construction, with four posts and a "celour" or back filled in with panelling. Here the back is divided into a series of panels vigorously carved with conventional flowers and birds, while the exhortations, "Drede God," "Love God," "Prayes God," are inlaid on scrolls in a kind of mastic or composition. The strong Renaissance feeling in this decoration, which is blunt and summary in handling and free from the least hint of Continental borrowings, contrasts with the late Gothic tracery on framework and posts. The crocketed cornice has been partly restored; it is perhaps a unique feature in an Early Tudor bedstead.

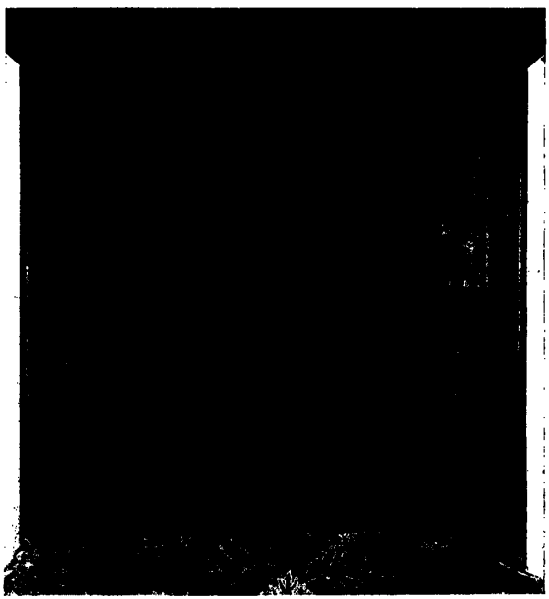
Doubtless, a canopy of fabric with valances and curtains was suspended from this cornice, an arrangement which, like the fusion of styles in the decoration, marks an interesting transitional phase before the introduction of a panelled tester. Wills and inventories show that at the end of Henry VIII's reign, the mediæval type with hangings had not yet been superseded by "joyned" bedsteads. Thus, Isabell Craike, of Bishop Burton, Yorkshire, in 1548, bequeathed to her son "one bed of crimisen satten and white with the curtaines of reade sarcenet and blewe," and to her daughter "a tester of dornixe with the valance of blewe bukkeram"—the wooden structure in each case being regarded as negligible.

The sides of the "bedstock," which appear to be original, are crudely carved with floral patterns which bear no relation to each other. They are pierced for cords to support the mattress. In the Saffron Walden bedstead, the sides are united to the posts, but here the foot-board is framed into short moulded uprights, thus anticipating the type of "bedstock" which became normal under Elizabeth.

On two of the posts amid the tracery, the Sacred Monogram and the *Agnus Dei* respectively are inlaid. It would be difficult to cite another instance of the use of these symbols on Tudor domestic furniture, but only a few years before this bedstead was made (on account of its origin in the remote North, we must make a generous allowance for time lag), it was the general practice among testators to commend their souls "to Allmyghtie God, to the gloriouse Virgyne our Lady Saynt Mary, and to all the Saynts in heven," before setting about the disposal of their goods. For them the visible was scarcely divided from the invisible world, and it was natural that they should introduce sacred symbols on their domestic utensils and furniture.

How this remarkable bedstead came to Crackenthorpe Hall is not known. On one of the shields supported by dragons in the frieze are the initials H.F.; while at the foot is another shield bearing arms (if, indeed, the devices are heraldic) which have not been identified. The Machel arms are sable, three greyhounds courant in pale argent, and it is probable that the bedstead came into the family through marriage in a later generation. It has not escaped a measure of alteration, but its interest and value are substantially unimpaired.

OAK BEDSTEAD FROM CRACKENTHORPE HALL, WESTMORLAND. ENGLISH, ABOUT 1525-40



DETAIL OF HEAD-BOARD OR CELURE

# OLD ENGLISH SAMPLERS—I

By G. BERNARD HUGHES

BEAUTIFUL needlework has always been an accomplishment of the elegant and cultured women of all nations. During those centuries when formal clothing of both sexes was lavishly decorated with colourful needlework in gold, silver and silken threads, women of the wealthier classes spent endless months working upon a single garment. Entire convent staffs sometimes devoted their whole lives to working church embroideries.

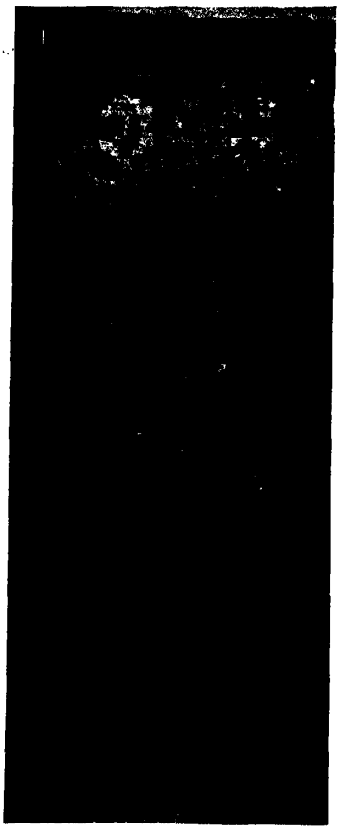
These needlewomen became assiduous collectors of new patterns and complex stitches, at first practising them on odd scraps of handwoven linen. Then, during the late fifteenth century, it became the custom to work these practice patterns on long, narrow lengths of linen. These, kept for purposes of reference and copying, were called samplers. The word sampler is generally accepted as having derived from the Latin *exemplar*, through the old French *essemplaire* to the Old English ensample whence came the more modern term of sampler through numerous variants, including samplerie and samcloth, a modification of seam cloth.

The earliest English use of the word appears in the royal inventory of Queen Elizabeth of York dated 1502: "an elne of linnyn cloth for a samplar for the Quene, viijd." Fifty years later another royal inventory, prepared for Edward VI, refers to "a samplar of Normandie canvas wrought with green and black silks and a book of parchment containing diverse patterns." Literature during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries contains unending allusions to samplers. In 1523 the poet John Skelton wrote of "the sampler to sow on, the laces to enbraid," and in 1594 Lyly exclaimed that "every stitch in her sampler is a pricking stitch at my heart."

Patterns were handed down by earlier generations, new designs usually being derived from samplers acquired by travellers abroad. Mary Stuart, who learned Italian cut-work at Catherine de Medici's court, carried with her to Scotland several samplers of exquisitely worked patterns. Towards the end of Queen Elizabeth's reign designs were copied from expensive pattern books, few of which have survived owing to the frequent needle-prickings required in transferring a pattern.

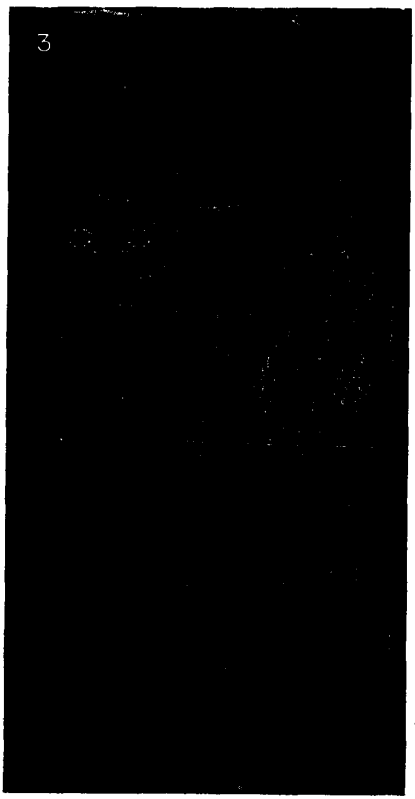
The first of these books, translated from the Italian and published in London during 1591, was titled *New and Singular Patternes and Workes of Linnen Serving for Patternes to make all sorts of Lace, Edgings and Cut Workes.* The best-known English book was Shorleyker's *Schoolehouse for the Needle*, published 1624, a treasure house of designs copied even to-day. Pattern books were printed simultaneously in England, France, Italy and Germany; this accounts for the lack of originality in 17th-century needlework design. Contemporary samplers reveal by frequent repetition of certain motifs, even to details, that pattern books were a general source of designs.

Until about 1625 no attempt was made to elaborate samplers; their sole purpose was merely as a simple medium upon which needlewomen could collect patterns. These early specimens—a bare half-hundred survive—were short and broad, embroidered with small, detached, conventional designs, no attempt being made at formal arrangement. This type of sampler, which continued until the Restoration, was made of loosely woven, rather harsh textured canvas-like linen, brownish in colour. It was worked partly in tent-stitch,



1.—THE EARLIEST KNOWN ENGLISH DATED SAMPLER. 1630. Embroidered in coloured silks and metal threads on linen *Dorchester Museum*

2.—CUT AND DRAWN SAMPLER BY SUSAN NEBABRI, PROBABLY LATE ELIZABETHAN Two of the fifteen bands of openwork ornament are worked in gold and silver *London Museum*



3.—A SPECIMEN WORKED IN SILK ON LOOSELY WOVEN LINEN DURING THE REIGN OF JAMES I *Victoria and Albert Museum*

partly in close lace-stitches, gold and silver threads mingling with coloured silks.

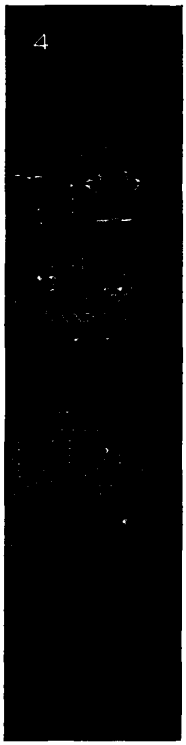
A more orderly arrangement of designs began when Charles I came to the throne. Samplers were now worked on strips of soft, unbleached or half-bleached linen, hand-spun and hand-woven, measuring from two to three feet in length but rarely exceeding six or seven inches in width. Frequently, for convenience in storing and carrying, a bone parchment-roller was attached to one end. Others were rolled upon special cylinders of thick vellum or tiny bolsters of linen stuffed with wool, horsehair or hay.

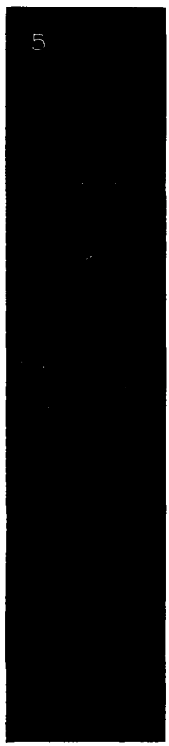
These samplers reproduced Elizabethan patterns, scalloped edgings and corner ornaments, with occasional relief work. Designs became progressively more elaborate. Popular designs from 1640 to 1750 were conventional floral and fruit patterns, but they also included a whole menagerie of creations such as caterpillars, lions, unicorns, leopards, stags and grasshoppers. Flowers included Arabian roses, Persian pinks, honeysuckles, lilies, pansies. Strawberries and acorns were common.

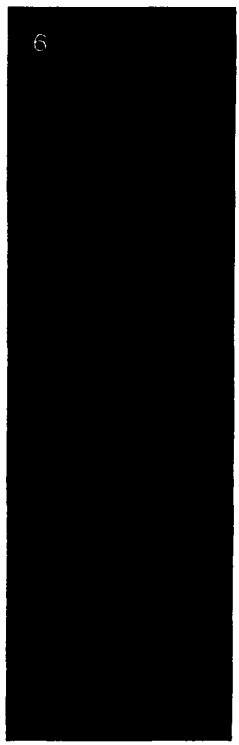
By the time of the Restoration, band patterns, of widths varying from one to three inches, extended from edge to edge of the linen, without any surrounding border. They were frequently works of great skill and beauty, many being based on the fine patterns embroidered—often in red silk—on Italian household linen. Each of the horizontal divisions was reserved for examples of one particular stitch, the last section sometimes being pictorial. Strangely, designs seldom resemble those of contemporary embroideries.

Curious figures of bushy-haired mannikins in doublet and hose were sometimes introduced into these sampler designs. Known as boxers, they are peculiar to English samplers, but similar figures in crimson silk on white linen are found in band patterns on Italian needlework of the previous century. Many slight variations are found of these grotesque little figures, each of whom holds in an extended hand what appears to be a vase or goblet. Every pair of these figures is separated by a stiff, formal tree. One plausible theory is that they are carrying dice boxes: more likely, perhaps, is the suggestion that they are representations of the popular fool or jester with his bauble. They are usually worked in flat satin stitch, sometimes in lace stitches over padding.

The silks used at this period were soft and very slightly twisted, blue, pink and green being the most frequent colours. Silver-gilt and gilt threads often enlivened the none-too-vivid silks. The principal stitches used on band samplers were back-stitch, flat satin-stitch, button-hole-





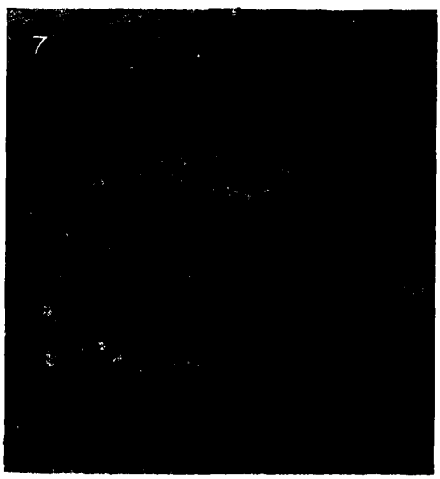


4.—BAND SAMPLER WORKED IN SILK ON LINEN, WITH CROSS, ITALIAN CROSS, SATIN AND DOUBLE-RUNNING STITCHES

5.—ANOTHER BAND SAMPLER IN SILK ON LINEN SHOWING SET-IN, DOUBLE RUNNING, CROSS, LONG-ARMED CROSS AND BUTTON-HOLE STITCHES, WITH EYELET HOLES AND DRAWN THREAD WORK

6.—LATE CAROLEAN BAND SAMPLER, IN SILKS ON LINEN, SHOWING A PAIR OF "BOXERS"

*Photographs from the Victoria and Albert Museum*



7.—SHORT BROAD SAMPLER EMBROIDERED WITH SMALL DETACHED DESIGNS, INCLUDING FANTASTIC ANIMALS, TYPICAL OF THOSE USED EARLY IN THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY. *In the collection of Mrs. Paul Waterhouse.*

stitch worked on the surface of the linen and cross-stitch. Tent-stitch, some of the closer lace stitches and French knots were also introduced. Also there were a number of curious stitches unknown to modern embroiderers. These, presumably, were included in the long list of queerly named and largely unidentified stitches recorded in 1640 by John Taylor in *Needle's Excellency*:—

Fine ferne-stitch; finny stitch; new stitch and chain stitch;
Brave bred-stitch, fisher-stitch; Irish stitch and Queen stitch;
The Spanish stitch, rosemary stitch, and moupe-stitch.

Contemporary with embroidered band samplers until about 1690 were white band samplers, the greater proportion being devoted to cut-work and drawn thread work. On others, disper or damask patterns were worked entirely in satin stitch with cream or white linen threads. White samplers were a direct outcome of the fashion for lace ruffs and similar dress accessories during the late Elizabethan and the entire Stuart periods. The art of cut-work was popularised by members of the Royal Household who introduced lace stitches intermingled with drawn thread work to enrich clothing and household linen. Patterns were also copied from Italian books of designs for cut-work (*reticella*) and point lace. English editions were published in London.

The decline of the lace-trimmed ruff ended the need for white band samplers; few are found as late as 1700. They were replaced by holliework samplers of point-lace stitch.

(*To be concluded*)

# A WIMBLEDON JUBILEE

WIMBLEDON—the all-important part of it where lawn tennis is played—is alive again after six years of inaction. True, it is a war-scarred All England Club whose stands hold their thousands once more; the old place is rather lacking in paint. But there again the young men and the young women of 22 nations are striving for championships of special interest.

"Special" because, although it is little realised, this is a jubilee. The Championships, for men only in those days, were begun in 1877. Subtracting the ten idle years of the two wars, this is the sixtieth meeting. So "Dinny" Pails and Geoffrey Brown from Australia, Francisco ("Pancho") Segura from Ecuador, Jack Kramer from the U.S.A., Pauline Betz and Margaret Osborne, also from the U.S.A.—all these great players and others from overseas ought to feel an extra thrill.

So for that matter ought our own people, little though they are able to stand up to the invaders, for you cannot be at close quarters with a war in the air for six years and hope to play the best lawn tennis. All things considered, Derek Barton, of our Davis Cup team, Jean Nicoll (now Mrs. E. W. A. Bostock), and Kay Stammers (Mrs. M. Menzies) have done as well as we could reasonably expect of them this season after so long a time of tennis idleness.

Cricket was in being at least as early as the sixteenth century. Beside it lawn tennis is a mere parvenu. Yet it has achieved what cricket never could in spreading itself beyond the English-speaking world. Its quick action, its appeal to both sexes, have made it irresistible. What is there to compare in other games with the Davis Cup team competition of thirty nations?

The small seed which has grown into so mighty a tree was planted not in the fields which became the present All England Club—opened in 1922—but a mile or so away in Worple Road, Wimbledon. Here, on Monday, July 9, 1877, 22 men, mainly players either of real tennis or of rackets, competed for the first championship, won by Spencer Gore, an Old Harrovian rackets player. The game even then had evolved beyond the old hour-glass shaped court favoured in the early 'seventies; but the net was nearly two feet higher at the posts than in the centre.

GENERAL VIEW OF CENTRE COURT. MEN'S DOUBLES IN PROGRESS

* * *

Gore volleyed quite a lot, so let not the net-storming champions of to-day think that the giants of old had not thought of such audacity. Most of the men sent over a service rather corresponding to the old "round arm" bowling of cricket, but the first champion in addition had an underhand liberally biassed with "cut." Two hundred onlookers at a shilling a head saw the final.

Half a century after this first championship the All England Club published in 1926 a jubilee book, *Fifty Years of Wimbledon*. One story it tells throws a light on the standard of play in these very early days. Frank Hadow, also an Old Harrovian and a coffee planter in Ceylon, came home for a holiday intending to play cricket, but turned his attention to the new game. He beat Spencer Gore in the Challenge Round of 1878, became champion, returned to Ceylon and vanished completely from the game.

In 1884 the women were given their place. How young a growth lawn tennis is came to my mind only a month ago, when I had news of the death, aged 81, of the first champion, Miss Maud Watson, who in a field of 13—to-day restricted to 96—beat her elder sister in the final. They were daughters of a Warwickshire vicar. Miss Maud Watson used to say that the game was as exacting in her day as in modern times. A glance at contemporary portraits will show why. Miss Watson wore a skirt almost touching the ground and a stiff straw hat rather like a masculine "boater." Even attired like this, the second woman champion, Miss Blanche Bingley (now Mrs. George Hillyard), was able, her late husband once told me, to run 100 yards in about 12 seconds. Woman champion number three, Miss Lottie Dod, distinguished herself by winning the Woman's Golf as well.

Masculine illustrations, too, show how weirdly the game was "dressed" in the 'seventies and 'eighties. White knickerbockers with dark stockings, even football jerseys, preceded the all-white of later years.

Many pioneers helped in the evolution of the game—especially the Renshaw brothers, Willie and Ernest, and, in the late 'nineties and early nineteen hundreds, the Dohertys, R. F. and H. L., photographed even to-day in many a lawn tennis pavilion.

The late Hamilton Price, referee at Wimbledon immediately before the recent war, used to say that "H.L." would have beaten any modern champion. I cannot believe it, because tennis form in those days was not hardened continually in the fire of international competition. But I will grant this: that if the Dohertys had had the opportunities of the young men now playing at Wimbledon they would have been as great or greater.

* * *

Concurrently with the men, women like these already mentioned and later Mrs. Sterry, whom I saw recently watching the Wightman Cup matches, and Mrs. Lambert Chambers became great builders of lawn tennis tradition. The reign of Mrs. Lambert Chambers, with her seven championships, continued indeed until after World War One. Then—in 1919—the immortal Suzanne Lenglen supplanted her in a challenge round equalling in excitement any match in lawn tennis history.

Almost until the 1914-18 war, Wimbledon's honours were, with rare exceptions, a home monopoly. N. E. (now Sir Norman) Brookes, perhaps the greatest left-hander of lawn tennis history, changed all that in winning the men's singles title for Australia in 1907 and 1914; Anthony Wilding, New Zealander from Cambridge, held it from 1910 to 1913. Then, after the war, came in men's tennis the reigns of Gerald Patterson, of Australia, W. T. Tilden and "Bill" Johnson, of the U.S.A.; Lacoste, Borotra and Cochet of France; and among the women two superb players, the late Suzanne Lenglen, champion six times, and Helen Wills, afterwards Mrs. Wills Moody (eight times).

Until that dazzling young Londoner Fred Perry won the men's singles for England again in 1934-5-6, no Englishman had held it since A. W. Gore in 1909.

Our women did rather better between the

MISS P. BETZ, U.S.A. (*Left*) AND MRS. E. W. A. BOSTOCK, GREAT BRITAIN

"DINNY" PAILS, AUSTRALIA

MISS P. BETZ, U.S.A.

"PANCHO" SEGURA, ECUADOR

wars, with two championships gained by Miss K. McKane (now Mrs. L. A. Godfree), and two by Miss Dorothy Round (now Mrs. Douglas Little).

Of the great overseas winners Tilden is likely to go down to posterity as the W. G. Grace of lawn tennis—by general consent the greatest of this or any other age for the power and completeness of his game. I should place Donald Budge, his fellow American, champion in 1937-38, second only to him.

Between Lenglen and Wills it is indeed difficult to choose. They played each other only once—at Cannes, when the French girl won narrowly, before her young rival had developed her full powers. I believe that the strength of the Wills hitting would have been too much for Lenglen, but there is nothing more difficult than comparing players of different generations. Miss Alice Marble, out and out champion everywhere in 1939, and now a professional player, is worthy of comparison with either—her game is so manlike.

Of the three, however, the most picturesque was undoubtedly Lenglen, with her girlish excitability, her fashion-making bandeaux and pleated skirts, her temperamental storms and sunshine. She gave Wimbledon, in the days just after the last war, an advertisement it has never had before or since. She was as much "the rage" as any film star. English small clubs were full of would-be Suzannes.

So the Wimbledon panorama passes on. If anyone affirms that there are no longer great personalities in the game the correct answer is the sceptical retort, "There never were." What of little Segura, for example, small, volatile, golden-skinned Ecuadorian? He is full of the strange quality. Nor is it lacking in the American girls' team now at Wimbledon, as strong a combination of five as ever voyaged with tennis rackets.

Let us admit it—English lawn tennis, competitively speaking, is in for a thin time in the next few years, for our players of five and twenty are where they ought to have been at 19; even 25 is old for the raw material of champions. That unpleasant fact will never keep tennis folk away from Wimbledon. Myself, I should want to go and see and cheer the world's best players if they were Hottentots or Esquimaux.

B. H.

# PERSONAL GLORY IN ATHLETICS

## By LIEUT.-COL. F. A. M. WEBSTER

TIME was when British sportsmen—and women—would flock in their thousands to see a full-dress match between any two great athletic clubs. Those were the days when the team spirit, even as in Rugger, provided the main sport-attending motive of the general public. In those days the honorary treasurer of the Cambridge University Athletic Club was able, by judicious advertising, to attract a gate of £7,000 for a May week match against the Amateur Athletic Association at Fenner's and to provide, moreover, for the lavish entertainment and travelling expenses of the visiting team.

That is all changed now. In the palmiest days of Lord Burghley's Light Blue teams the Cambridge share of the gate at the annual Oxford v. Cambridge sports meeting at the White City, London, used to amount to something over £1,000, which put the athletic finances of the University on a sound footing for the ensuing twelve months. By 1939, however, even with Godfrey Brown as an attraction, that share had dropped to something in the neighbourhood of £900. So Cambridge is forced to face the heavy task of post-war athletic reconstruction with almost empty coffers.

That represents a serious state of affairs, which will affect Great Britain as a whole; for Oxford and Cambridge, between them, have supplied Great Britain with more Olympic champions and representatives than any other two athletic clubs. There is, moreover, much athletic equipment to replace—equipment which has been destroyed, or has deteriorated beyond further practical use, during the war years. There is also the difficult business of finding an efficient professional coach, who will certainly require higher wages than the late Alec Nelson received.

Bill Bingham, at Harvard University, has had a similar experience in the United States and is agreed that honest athletic meetings have been ruined by the gladiatorial contests between picked runners, particularly "The Mile of the Century" in the United States, advertised to make attempts on world's records, for the personal glory of the selected runners and the profit of the promoter.

The public appetite has been so whetted by all this since the days of Jack Lovelock, Billy Bonthron of Princeton, Glenn Cunningham of Kansas, Sydney Wooderson and the big Swedes, Gunder Hägg and Arne Andersson, that the people no longer bother to go to see ordinary representative team competitions. British athletics, in general, and university athletics in particular, will suffer from this circumstance.

Meanwhile, the universities—not only Oxford and Cambridge, but the provincial universities—which constitute the Universities' Athletic Union, must have first-rate coaches if Great Britain is ever again to hold up her head in the realms of international athletic competition.

Thirty-two members of the United States Army, partly trained in physical education in the widest sense, which embraces all games and track and field athletics, put in a term, before going home, at The School of Athletics, Games and Physical Education, then in existence at Loughborough College. What I saw of their efficiency and dash opened my eyes to quite a few things. They had, in the first place, received at their high schools a far better education in sport than they could have got at any English public school at so early an age. Somehow, they seemed to apply themselves to their games and athletics with a far more wholehearted verve, which comes undoubtedly from knowledge of the true technique, than is usual with athletes in their adolescence here.

Of the thirty-two United States athletes in question a couple were so outstandingly good, both as coaches and demonstrators, that I was able to arrange for them to visit Cambridge University weekly during the Christmas Term to help the C.U.A.C. They were Captain Robert R. Lockwood, capable of clearing 6 feet each time out in the high jump, besides being a first-class hurdler, long-jumper and runner; and Top Sergt. Vaughn L. Webber, who is a master of both the shot and discus.

Old Blues, too, rallied round the C.U.A.C. at this time of difficulty and I found Salisbury-Woods, former weight-putting record-holder, recently back from East Africa; Ali Irfan, who holds the inter-varsity weight-putting record, on a visit from Turkey; R. L. Howland, who holds the English weight record and was just back from service in the R.A.F.; and Top Sergt. Webber, (U.S.A.) all giving helpful advice to the young entry of aspirants to strong-man events honours at Fenner's.

1.—THE FOUR LODGES AND ENTRANCE TO THE FORECOURT FROM THE WEST

# MIDDLETON PARK, OXFORDSHIRE—I

## THE PROPERTY OF MR. A. C. J. WALL

*Built 1934–1938 for the Earl of Jersey from designs by Sir Edwin and Mr. Robert Lutyens on the site of a larger and much altered Georgian House.*

By CHRISTOPHER HUSSEY

2.—ENTRANCE FRONT SEEN BETWEEN THE FORECOURT GATE PIERS

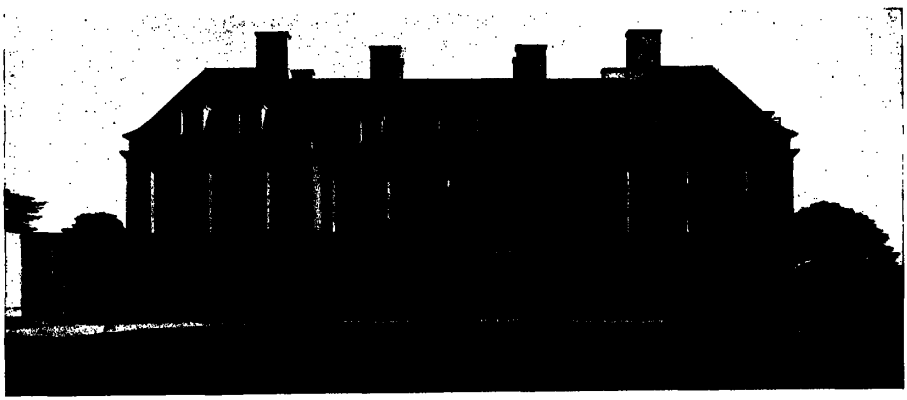
MIDDLETON PARK was the last big country house with which Sir Edwin Lutyens was concerned. In some respects it is also the finest, which gives significance to the fact that designs and detail were the joint responsibility of Sir Edwin and his son, Mr. Robert Lutyens, in partnership. Since the work was a true collaboration it would be invidious, if indeed it were possible, to distinguish the respective shares of the joint architects. We can recognise the integral affinities to the characteristic later Lutyens style, also perhaps refinements on and departures from it. But that is less an index to distinctions than a tribute to the affinities of father and son, which enabled them in collaboration to create that which, having in it something of each, is yet more complete than either, it may be, would have produced singly. Also it is reassuring to deduce, as we surely may, that the Lutyens artistry is neither defunct nor petrified but capable of indefinite development.

The building is at least the fourth on the site. Soon after the Conquest Middleton Stoney, near Bicester, became a possession of the de Camvilles who in Stephen's reign built a castle, the mounds of which are traceable near the church. However, this was soon dismantled, and the manor came to be held generally by the widows of successive feudal lords, till in the seventeenth century it was bought by John Harman of Taynton. His son Nicolas, who died aged 82 in 1668, built a "commodious mansion" on the present site. His eventual descendant, Edmund Denton, sold it in 1711 to the Hon. Henry Boyle, a cousin of the Palladian Earl of Burlington and himself created Lord Carlton, remembered by his bequest in 1725 of his house in Pall Mall to Frederick, Prince of Wales, and his successors.

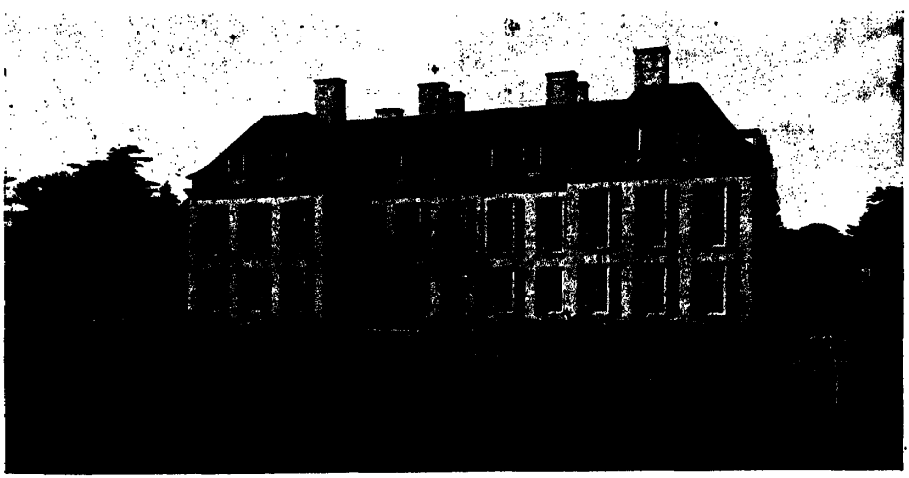
Middleton passed by marriage to the second Duke of Queensbury, whose successor and his celebrated wife sometimes entertained their literary friends here, among them Prior and Gay. About 1750 Middleton was sold to William Villiers,* third Earl of Jersey. He rebuilt the house, probably as a large Palladian mansion, but this was burnt down in 1753. Two years later "a handsome brick structure arose upon its ruins, and to add to the beauty of the domain the park was improved and the surrounding scenery tastefully arranged." It remained his and his son's principal home. It was his grandson, later fifth Earl,

* The first Earl, Ambassador to the States General, was so created by William III, 1697. He descended from Sir George Villiers of Brooksby, Co. Leicester, whose sons were distinguished as follows: 1, William, cr. baronet; 2, Sir Edward, ancestor of Earls of Jersey; 3, John, cr. Viscount Purbeck; 4 George, cr. Duke of Buckingham; 5, Christopher, cr. Earl of Anglesey.

3.—FROM THE EAST. A wall and gateway were designed to enclose the forecourt on this side also



4.—THE NORTH FRONT. The forecourt wall is conceived as carried across by the solid lower storey



5.—*SOUTH FRONT. Its open design is in contrast to the austere forecourt elevation*

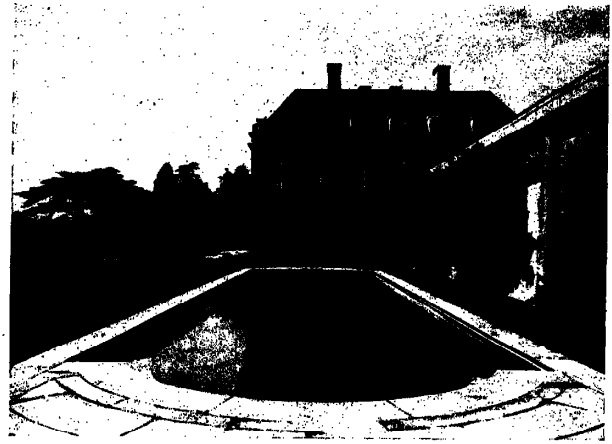
who in 1804 married Lady Sarah Fane, daughter of the Earl of Westmorland, who had eloped in 1782 with the only daughter of Robert Childe, the great banker, whose sole heiress Lady Sarah became, inheriting Osterley.

An engraving of the 1755 house shows an Ionic porticoed centre with projecting wings to a forecourt. In the nineteenth century it was refaced in stone, but was seriously impaired by extensive additions. To modern eyes it was without architectural merit besides being difficult to run and maintain. All that now remains of it is the Magnolia Wall (Fig. 6)—the south wall of the old kitchens. It was hoped to re-use the stone work, which was carefully stacked after demolition, but most of it proved unsuitable and newly-quarried Clipsham stone was used throughout the new house.

Lord Jersey's intention was to build a small house, with detached servants' quarters. The fact that the final plans were for a house bigger than that first contemplated was due to a number of factors—to Lord Jersey's wish to accommodate his extensive possessions, for instance—but principally to the complexity attained by country house life just before the war. The compact family home first envisaged was required now to accommodate at need up to a dozen guests, each of whom might be married and so require a dressing-room, with private bathroom, and bring a servant also needing accommodation. The sanitary, electric and mechanical installations required by modern convention for such an establishment greatly complicated the architect's task.

In this article, however, we are concerned with the external arrangement and design. Here the feature due particularly to the client's stipulation is the four detached lodges, necessarily grouped together since they were for the accommodation of the resident and visiting staffs.

It is these (Fig. 1) that first meet the visitor's eye as he comes up the great elm avenue planted in relation to the previous house. As it approaches, elms give place to a semicircle of fine cedars. Set in echelon, the lodges with their pyramidal roofs form a sequence of geometric patterns as one moves to left or right (towards the kitchen quarters or garage respectively). Between the middle lodges a pair of piers surmounted by eagles (carved by Sir W. Reid Dick) gives into the forecourt, beyond which the approach axis is continued by a further avenue. But the farther side, now open (Fig. 3) was designed to be enclosed by a corresponding wall with gateway, and the piers to have gates, forming a great courtyard reminiscent of the smaller and similar arrangements at Gledstone. It is necessary to bear this in mind in viewing the entrance front of the house (Fig. 4) since it is the clue to the unusual conception of the whole elevational design.



6.—THE BATHING POOL AND MAGNOLIA WALL. The latter is the only remnant of the earlier house

In this, house and lodges are regarded as rising from a continuous wall, built to first-floor window level, and turning their backs, as it were, to the courtyard. By the decision, due to the unsettled conditions at the time, not to complete the court, the contrast between the severe front elevation and the expansive garden front facing south (Fig. 5) is somewhat blurred.

But the wall motif is beautifully developed in the completed part of the design. On both faces of the lodges it is to be noted as a set back at coping level (forming the sills of the upper windows, Fig. 7), with a vertical break for the entrances to the middle lodges (Fig. 1). Similarly all the secondary doorways are of uniform character—an exquisite Lutyens simplification of a classical theme, and stressing the wall's horizontal character (Fig. 11).

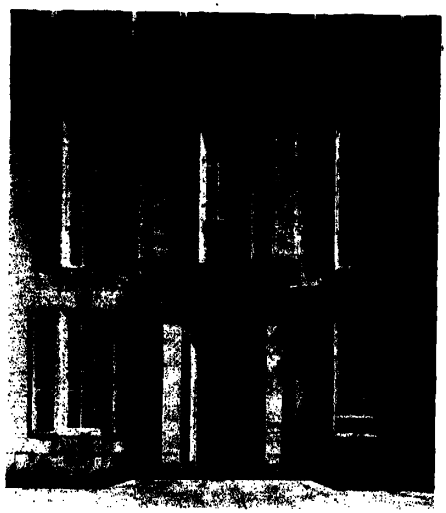
On the court façade of the house the combination of the level sweeps in the solid base and roof with the vertical emphasis of the lofty first-floor windows sets up a powerful rhythm (also found in Gledstone but more fully developed here) which is controlled by the massive entrance portal on the centre axis (Fig. 8). This gives into a vaulted passage to the hall in the recessed centre, so its pedimented treatment is technically correct. Indeed, the whole feature is a beautiful instance of scholarship applied to original use of the classic, in this case Doric, ordonnance.

It is this union of learning and imagination that gives to Middleton particular significance as a modern classical design. Classical essentially denotes qualities rather than columns, those qualities conferred by the lucid relating of plan, elevation and texture within a predominately symmetrical pattern. The real classicist does not merely reproduce the stock phrase, but, having absorbed the several dialects of his art, can express himself and his materials epigrammatically and with facility in whichever he is using, or gracefully develop or modify an initial theme according to circumstances.

At Middleton the architects have exemplified this power especially in the transformation of the "closed" horizontal court front theme into the contrastingly "open" and vertical design of the garden front (Fig. 9). The elements of the two fronts are identical; their effects opposite. In the east end (Figs. 3 and 10) we can see the transition taking place, horizontal emphasis merging into vertical accent, the process being

7.—ONE OF THE LODGES AND THE FORECOURT GATEWAY

8.—*THE MAIN ENTRANCE.* **The blind walls either side of it conceal cloak-room and gun-room**



9.—*CENTRE OF THE SOUTH FRONT.* **The order is a version of that evolved at Delhi**

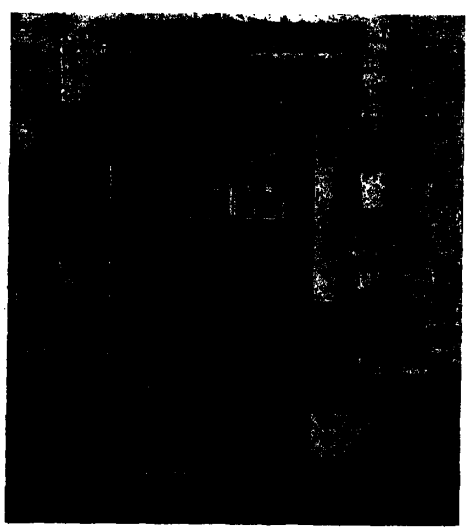
summed up in the suggested pilasters and, in the doorway, the merged rustication. Incidentally in the south door will be noticed a variety of the "Delhi" order to the use of which the Lutyens firm has prescriptive right.

Much of the dignity of the elevations is due to the raising of the roof on a parapet above the cornice. This gives just that extra impression of height needed, a strong but not dark level band at the junction of walls and roof. It also keeps the eaves and gutters clear of the cornice moulding—a distinction on which Sir Edwin always insisted. Moreover the shallow projection of the eaves, and the gutters delivering rain water not into down pipes but into stone spouts (thus avoiding external plumbing), necessitated a functional cornice for the protection of the walls. Incidentally the small windows seen in the parapet on the south front are for child's use at floor level in the nurseries.

A formal garden with front lawn and lateral terraces raised on dry-stone walls was designed for the south front, on similar lines to the Gledstone lay-out. This was only partly completed and its planting had to be a make-shift owing to the outbreak of the war. That it should have been so well maintained is a tribute to the officers' hospital which occupied Middleton for most of the war period, during whose tenancy, indeed, these photographs were taken.

*(To be concluded)*

10.—**THE RECESSED CENTRE OF THE EAST SIDE.** **Horizontal emphasis subtly merging into vertical accent**



11.—**ONE OF THE SUBSIDIARY FORECOURT DOORWAYS.** **The original masonry pattern is used throughout**

# THE PROBLEM OF OLD ORCHARD TREES

By D. T. MACFIE

OLD orchard trees are usually considered a decided asset. They can be, and often are, a problem. A keen fruit-grower intent on modern scientific practice, and hypercritical as to quantity and quality of crop will invariably sentence them to death without a further thought. But whether or not old trees bear fruit they are usually so much a part of the landscape that it is a bold man who would, like the Queen of Hearts, say "Off with their heads," and then have no misgivings. Even a supply of scented apple wood is small consolation for the loss of trees which for fifty years or more have been a familiar feature of a much-loved scene.

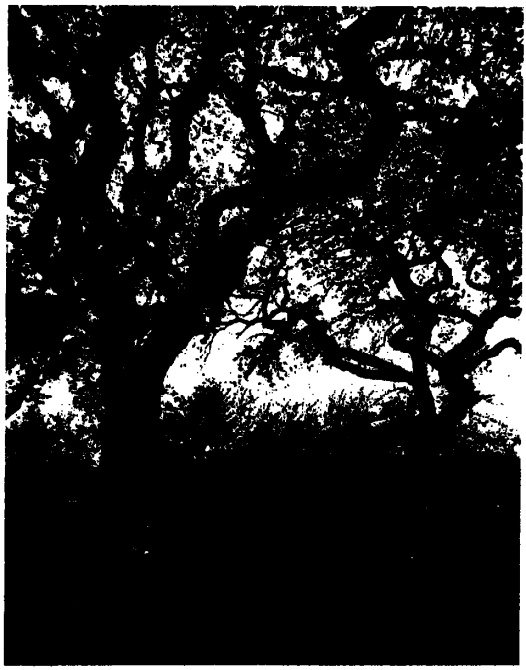
Were it only a matter of deciding whether or not the picturesque value of the trees outweighed the more material considerations of more and better fruit, the issue would be clear. Few fruit trees would be in danger. There are other factors to be taken into account. Disease is one. In some cases reprieve of aged trees may be anti-social. It may even be against the law as, for instance, in the case of plums or apples with silver leaf disease. An order made under the Destructive Insects and Pests Act requires occupiers of any premises on which plum and apple trees are growing to cut off and destroy by fire, on the premises, all the dead wood of each plum and apple tree before July 15 of every year. Where the dead wood on the trunk extends to the ground the whole tree, including the root, must be burned. An occupier may also be required to destroy wood of any kind of tree whatsoever on which the silver leaf fungus is visible, and any inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture may enter land on which he has reason to suspect the presence of trees or bushes to which the Order applies. Very few old trees are without some dead wood.

Silver leaf is admittedly rare among fruit diseases in one respect. There is no known specific for it. Methods of controlling its spread consist entirely in preventing the spores, which are distributed far and wide by wind, from appearing. Hence the dead wood order. The fruiting bodies of the disease which produce the spores appear only on dead wood and can only infect other trees through wounded or injured surfaces. They cannot penetrate or grow on sound, uninjured bark.

None the less it is wishful thinking to persuade oneself that large fruit-growers keep their trees in such perfect health that there should be little risk of their being infected, even though spores are floating round on every chance breeze. No one can keep a fruit plantation free from injured wood the whole year round, and the disease attacks many other trees and shrubs. Peaches, almonds, hawthorn, blackthorn, laburnum and horse chestnut are just some of them. From these and any old dead wood which is lying about it is bound in time to spread.

Routine spraying will keep most other pests and diseases in check sufficiently to avoid being dubbed a bad neighbour. But 50- or 60-year-old trees cannot be tackled with the average garden equipment. A pressure sprayer working at 250 to 300 lb. to the square inch is needed. Few gardens possess one. There are, it is true, contractors with powerful machinery who will spray orchards, but for only a few trees this is not likely to prove an economic proposition. There are, too, such rarities as nearby commercial growers who for their own safety will spray trees within a reasonable area, with winter washes and lime sulphur at any rate, the former to destroy greenfly, apple sucker, winter moth and other hibernating pests, the latter as a protection against scab, which so disfigures the fruit.

Against sawfly, apple blossom weevil, codlin moth and other destructive evils unaffected by winter washes and lime sulphur, most old trees must be left to take their chance.



FRUIT TREES WHICH HAVE STOOD FOR OVER A CENTURY AT OWLETTS, COBHAM, KENT

All of us can, of course, quote numberless instances of trees which have been left unsprayed for more years than most people care to remember. Many of them are in perfect health and produce good crops. What is more, they will probably continue to do so. The full spraying routine as practised by the commercial grower is really a form of insurance. He cannot afford to have a large part of a year's crop ruined or reduced in value by one oversight or neglect.

Spraying, if it is possible, is practically an obligation. It is also well worth while.

Pruning and picking problems are even more apparent than the dire possibilities of spreading pests and disease around the neighbourhood. But they are not so serious, for they affect oneself alone. Anything in the nature of routine pruning is out of the question with really old trees. This is not quite the tragedy that might be inferred from a study of fruit manuals. All that will happen if the trees are left unpruned is that they will probably become overcrowded, with a corresponding reduction in the crop produced. This, to my mind, is infinitely preferable to the other extreme—ruthless spurring back year after year, which results in a mutilated monstrosity of a tree full of gnarled and ancient spurs and lacking even natural grace and beauty. If one can prevent gross overcrowding, so much the better. A smaller crop will be the only result of failing to do so.

In most orchards the picking problem is simplified by picking only those fruits which are easily reached and allowing the remainder to drop. Fruits from paddock trees falling on a soft carpet of grass come to little harm if gathered without being allowed to lie. On dew and rain-soaked grass slight bruises soon develop into rot. I have never found wind drops keep well. Bruises always develop and enlarge in store.

It is, of course, true that many old trees have only decorative value whether they set fruit or not. Misguided enthusiasts who have planted pips of Cox's orange pippin, thinking to raise trees that would produce fruits at least as good as their illustrious parent, are chiefly responsible. C.O.P. has, in fact, been grievously slandered by gardeners who have raised seedlings and then offered them with pride as pippins of their own raising. Seedlings may produce fruits of the same quality as their parent. The very heavy odds are that they will not. There are, too, many grand old varieties of apples, pears and other fruits. But there are not a few which bear about as much resemblance to a quality fruit as does a crab apple to C.O.P. Judgment in such cases must be based on purely æsthetic grounds. It is a straightforward case of deciding if the tree is worth preserving as a purely ornamental flowering tree, which all fruits undoubtedly are.

Trees which do not fruit at all are not uncommon. This may be a result of the balance of growth being upset, though this is more common by far with those which are severely pruned and highly cultivated. Very vigorous wood growth with a corresponding paucity of flowers are certain signs. The trouble can be counteracted by bark ringing, though this is dangerous with stone fruits which are liable to gum. Root pruning, a popular measure with young trees, is a task that I would never contemplate with an orchard veteran.

There are also trees which flower but still fail to set fruit. Many fruit trees and nearly all cherries are self-sterile. Pollen from another compatible variety is required to fertilise the blossom. Hence the Ellison's orange and Worcester Pearmains which are always found planted with C.O.P. in commercial orchards. The remedy is simple. A compatible variety planted in reasonable proximity will soon put matters right. Failing this, a few grafts of the pollinating variety can be put on the old tree.

# PLAYING OFF THE TIE

*A Golf Commentary by* **BERNARD DARWIN**

I ALWAYS think that the playing off of a tie in an important scoring competition, best of all, of course, an Open Championship, can provide the intensest thrill that golf has to offer. "You can see," said Mr. Malthus, in describing the Suicide Club, "how it combines the excitement of a gaming-table, a duel, and a Roman amphitheatre." In imitation of that votary of intoxicating sensation I say that playing off a tie combines the thrust and parry of a match play duel with the long-drawn-out, never-ceasing strain of a scoring round. It is in effect a match, but with the super-added agony of a medal in the ever-lurking possibility of some calamity to one side or the other which may up to the very last moment turn the scale. In a match one player may gain such a lead that long before the end all is over, but there is, comparatively speaking, no such thing as a winning lead with card and pencil. A three by one party and a disastrous seven by the other and our whole view changes suddenly like a kaleidoscope. There can be no certainty till the leader has avoided the road at the 17th and is safely over the burn at the home hole.

* * *

Even as I write these words I am touching wood to avoid the evil chance, because I cannot deny that I and my colleagues who report golf live in a perpetual dread of ties. Perhaps we are lazy dogs, but after five days watching of an Open Championship we have had all we want. In the abstract a tie is the most desirable of excitements; in the concrete we hate it like poison and breathe a profound sigh when the last putt which might mean another day's work has been duly missed. We may write with a cheap magnanimity that the player was unlucky, but we were mightily thankful to see the ball stay above ground. On the whole Providence has been very kind. Year after year a tie has appeared almost inevitable, and yet since I first began this reporting game in 1908 I have had to watch only three ties, in this country, for the Open Championship: Vardon and Massy at Sandwich in 1911, Roger Wethered and Hutchison at St. Andrews in 1921, and Shute and Craig Wood also at St. Andrews in 1933. Again touching wood, I have, in a good hour be it spoken, been let down easily.

Had I been in the United States my lot would have been more arduous, for there they seem to make a point of ties. Indeed, I am moved to these observations by the recent triple tie for the Championship at Cleveland between Byron Nelson, Victor Ghezzi and Lloyd Mangrum. How many ties there have been in American Championships I am not sure, for the book which is usually my prop and stay does not tell me, but I can think unaided of a good many.

First of all there was that historic one between Vardon, Ray and Francis Ouimet which I saw myself but will not describe again at this time of day, even though the endless pattering of the rain brings back that soaking day at Brookline most vividly to my mind. There was another triple tie in which that great and, as far as championships are concerned, most unfortunate golfer, Macdonald Smith, took part. It was as near as he ever got to winning an honour that was so justly his due. In 1931 there was a famous Marathon tie at Toledo between Burke and George Von Elm. They played off on one day and tied again at 149. They tried again next day and seemed horribly likely to end once more as they began, but Burke just got home with 148 against 149.

* * *

And then, if our golfing history has grown a little dim, we are apt to forget that the great Bobby himself took part in three ties for the Championship and, what is truly surprising, lost the play-off in two out of the three. I have been refreshing my memory by reading again Mr. O. B. Keeler's *Boy's Life of Bobby Jones*. The first of the three was with a Scottish golfer, who had become an American, Willie MacFarlane, at Worcester in 1925. At that date a tie was played off in a single round, as it had been in Ouimet's year, 1913. The two tied again in the morning, and must try again in the afternoon. Bobby led by four at the turn, but MacFarlane had a brace of twos at short holes, and they were level with three to play and still level with two to play. "Looks like a third play-off," suggested Mr. Keeler. "No," answered Bobby, "there won't be another play-off. I'll settle it one way or another, in this round." And so he did, for at the last hole he cut his pitch over a bunker just too fine in a valiant attempt for a three; he was caught and took a five, and MacFarlane with a fine, conservative four was the victor.

Three years later Bobby tied again, at Olympia Fields, with Johnny Farrell, and this time the American rule had been altered and the play-off was over thirty-six holes. Bobby was three behind in the morning and actually led once in the afternoon round, but Farrell came again and holed a fine putt on the home green to win. In the very next year at Winged Foot Bobby himself holed a desperately good putt, a curly one of twelve feet across a slope, and that too, after he had thrown away a winning lead, to tie with Espinosa. The third time was lucky, for he won very comfortably on playing off.

* * *

Of the three ties that I have watched in our own Championship I cannot say that any one of them has in [illegible] and threatened me with heart disease, though [illegible] of them possessed exciting elements. Two [illegible] of the three had the dramatic quali[illegible] of being international: England *v.* Fra[illegible] in 1911, and England *v.* America in 1921. The third, in 1933, was a wholly American struggle, and with all respect to those two fine golfers, Densmore Shute and Craig Wood, we all felt a little depressed at such a result, at St. Andrews of all places in the world, and so did not very greatly care who won. The only mild excitement came at the very first hole of all, when Craig Wood, having put his second into the burn, took off his shoes and stockings and waded in to play the ball out. The tie at Sandwich was essentially thrilling because it marked Vardon's come-back. He had not won since 1903, and it had seemed unlikely that after his grave illness he could ever win again. It was wonderful to see him once more at his best or very nearly at his best (I think a little something had gone which could never quite return) and defending the honour of his country. Regarded purely as a combat, however, it was too much of a run-away, and, as the books record, the Frenchman gave up with a smiling grace on the 35th green. In 1921 again the margin of victory was a little too large, for Jock Hutchison won by nine strokes, and even with the fateful Road hole looming in the distance our hopes had died some little time before the end.

* * *

Nevertheless, I stick to my point that there is something about a play-off which does uniquely stir the pulse and appeals to the rather cruel, gladiatorial instinct. I am writing these words before I set out for St. Andrews, and hope I have not provoked Nemesis too far. If there is a tie there, I shall, after duly cursing my luck, set out to watch, at any rate, the first few holes of it with a fine juvenile excitement. And there could be no better place for such a combat, for there are two holes at which we always believe that anything might happen, the 17th, already mentioned, and the 11th. If a man puts his tee shot there into the Hill bunker, as poor Sarazen did in Shute's year, or into Strath, or if he goes one fatal inch too far into the Eden, liability seems at any rate for one dreadful and delicious moment, to be almost unlimited. Some day, perhaps, there will be a quadruple tie to put the triple ones in the shade. I cannot honestly assert that I hope there will be, but in some corner of a record-loving heart there lurks the thought, not entirely to be repressed, that it would be rather good fun if there were.

# A COUNTRYWOMAN'S NOTES

*By* **EILUNED LEWIS**

THE difficulty of re-stocking our depleted china cupboards has sharpened our appreciation of good china as never before. It was surely a lack of imagination in the authorities to condemn us to this despondent dirty-white crockery. Occasional egg-shell blue or primrose yellow, one feels, would not have hurt anyone and might have added a little to the gaiety of the nation. Yet to avoid dreary utility we are driven to Harlequin mixtures, and who will deny their charm as well as oddity? A few Spode plates, run to earth in the dim recesses of an antique shop and harmonising happily with our lustre cups, can give more pleasure than the best-matched tea service, long since blitzed or broken; and a set of Lowestoft cups, all handleless as the Yongy Bongy Bo's jug, introduce into our tea-drinking an almost vanished elegance.

But it is not only at the table that the pleasures of porcelain are savoured. There is a world of difference between the washing and drying of fine and coarse china, a world which men now appreciate as keenly as women. Do the careful housewives of Holland, I wonder, now that their country is their own again, resume a practice of which I remember hearing? At the end of a meal a maid would bring to the table a bowl of water in which the lady of the house dipped her choicest china with her own delicate hands, drying it with the finest napery. The very thought conjures before our eyes a Dutch interior, and the round-eyed maid carrying in the steaming bowl. How fatal would be the disaster to a piece of delf dropped upon those shining red and white tiled floors!

* * *

AS summer deepens the nettles grow apace, and it is harder than ever to believe all the good things now said about this odious plant which most of us have disliked ever since childhood, when it first stung our bare legs. Yet pigs and hens thrive on it, and herb collectors in the war gathered vast quantities for the making of dye—an edible dye especially that could be used with safety for colouring food-stuffs. It is odd to think that before 1939 tons of dried nettles were imported from Russia, not because they were better than our British nettles (they were not, and they were badly dried), but because cheap Russian labour won the day and delivered the cut nettles at an unbeatable price.

In a two-acre orchard of a near acquaintance several men have been engaged in clearing nettles for several weeks, for in spite of all these excellent uses the invading army has gained ground. When finally the last enemy had been routed, the brown earth rolled and the seeds sown, up sprang the new grass (it seemed almost in a few days) brilliant green, as yet innocent of the tiniest weed, fine and soft as a baby's hair.

Were I Kubla Khan with the chance of decreeing a garden around my pleasure dome, I should certainly command several acres of newly sown herbage (provided that I did not have first to endure the sight of several acres of brown patch), for of all green things there is surely nothing more vivid or decorative than young growing grass.

* * *

THE effect on a town child of its war-time sojourn in the countryside is a subject on which grave psychologists might write treatises for years to come. To some people it has been one of the few consequences of the war on which the mind could dwell with any pleasure or peace, and that the consequences still persist is shown by this true story from Montgomeryshire.

Two Manchester children, sisters aged twelve and ten, arrived at a Welsh market town late one June evening. Unknown to their parents they had bought tickets and boarded the train with one object only, and it is difficult to think of a better one. They had been told by

their school friends, evacuated to this part of Wales, of a "wonderful Bluebell Wood," and had come to find it for themselves. Each sister carried a cushion "to be used for sleeping in the wood." A nice touch that, with its mixture of feminine forethought and desperate adventure. What thrilling, secret planning must have gone before! One fancies the terrific purloining of the cushions—seldom-used ones, perhaps from the front parlour, which would not soon be missed—and then the eager tram ride to the station and the breathless purchase of tickets. It is worth noting that they brought no food with them because they thought that when they reached the wood they would find everything they wanted. You see, it was no ordinary wood about which they had been told, but one where you could be sure of fairy feasts, of dancing and delight.

The sad thing about the whole affair is that when the sisters got out of the train after their long journey and immediately set about asking their way to the Bluebell Wood, the lucky townsfolk who lived close by did not understand their question and seemed to have no idea of their own good fortune in dwelling close to so blessed a spot. The story ends heartrendingly with the tired children being taken to the police station and the parents in Manchester, summoned by telephone, arriving next day to take them home. One longs to know that either father or mother was understanding. As for the Bluebell Wood, it remains for ever undiscovered. Merlin, maybe sleeps there beneath his oak tree. Maybe it is the "wood outside Athens"; perhaps the enchanted forest which hid the Sleeping Beauty for whom we are all looking.

# CORRESPONDENCE

## WATER SKI-ING

SIR,—Mr. Haworth-Booth's interesting article on water ski-ing (June 21) will no doubt encourage many beginners to try their hand. They will find their novitiate fairly lengthy. A surfboard towed by a power boat—the tow attached to the board—is easily mastered. Skis, in my experience, are not, and I am sure that novices would be well advised to get the feel of a board before attempting them. My only experience of the sport was on the Nagin lake at Srinagar, Kashmir, where it was one of the most popular holiday pastimes. But very few visitors in the space of a normal 28 days' leave completed even one round—a short one—on skis.

How we envied the Kashmiri owner of that power boat! Rs. 2 (3s.) for one round of two minutes and running from morning till night. Even though his petrol had to come 198 miles by road from Rawalpindi, he must surely have finished the war a wealthy man, even by Indian standards.—D. T. MACFIE, *London, W.2.*

### *SURFBOARD PLANING*

SIR,—All the joys of surfboard water planing can be had without the expense of a speedboat. In 1931 I had at Salcombe a 16 ft. clinker-built boat, the *Merlin*, of 5 ft. beam, powered with an American twin-cylinder two-stroke outboard engine of about 2½ h.p., giving a speed estimated at 6 knots.

Our surfboard, from memory, was 5 ft. 6 in. long by 30 in. wide at the rounded nose, tapering to 2 ft. wide at the flat tail. The underside was smooth with all strapping on top. The twinned tow-rope was attached to the underside edges some 18 in. aft of the nose. This is important.

On slowing down two hefty youngsters, one at a time, had no difficulty in clambering up and, with the throttle open, standing upright on the board without reins. On one occasion we went out over the bar on a rising tide planing on top of a very heavy swell.

Earlier, in the estuary at Port Madoc, where she was built, the *Merlin* successfully negotiated three tidal waves—curlers 3 ft. high.—W. L. SPENCE, 19, *Kenilworth Road, Leamington, Warwickshire.*

SERPENTINE WALL AT BRAMFIELD HALL, SUFFOLK
*See letter: A Crinkle-Crankle Wall*

## A CRINKLE-CRANKLE WALL

SIR,—I send you a photograph of an interesting and fine example of a crinkle-crankle wall, which surrounds the gardens of Bramfield Hall, Suffolk. It is of considerable extent, finely preserved and in good condition. Built one brick thick, and shaped in curves to provide strength, it is a fine piece of enduring workmanship. The pit from which the clay was dug to provide the bricks for this and the house was turned into a lily-pond, and forms a beautiful feature of a lovely old-world garden.—ALLAN JOBSON, *Beauchamp Cottage, 21, Crown Dale, S.E.19.*

[These serpentine walls seem to have been built more especially in East Anglia, but they are also found elsewhere. There is one, for instance, in the garden of West Horsley Place, Surrey. Possibly the shelter provided by each bay for growing wall fruit was the main reason for building walls in this fashion.—ED.]

## RATS CASTLE

SIR,—In answer to Mr. Staple's question (June 21), I always understood that Rats Castle, Plaxtol, was so called because it was (and probably is) infested with rats. I do not know about the other houses that he mentions. This one is a most beautiful and interesting old place. I was told that it belonged originally to the Archbishops of Canterbury. It is on the slope of a high hill looking right over the Medway Valley and has wall paintings in one room, the most magnificent beams, and original doors and windows. It will be a tragedy if it is allowed to fall into ruin.—G. WELFORD, *Bincombe Farm, Over Stowey, Somerset.*

SIR,—The inn of this name at St. Albans stands beside one of the old toll-houses which, when it fell into disrepair, was known locally as the Rats Castle.—G. A. TOMLIN, *Hasketon, Woodbridge, Suffolk.*

SIR,—There are at least two Rats Castles in Hampshire, and more are reputed to be near. In both the above instances the dwellings are isolated and lonely. I do not know the origin of the name. I asked an old country labourer, who is now 80, and he could only tell me that he knew them as Rats Castles when he was a child.—M.P., *Hampshire.*

## DITCHLEY PARK IN STRAW MARQUETRY

SIR,—As a collector of photographs and prints of the great and historic country houses of Britain, I was interested in the letter regarding the house in straw marquetry shown in your issue of April 5.

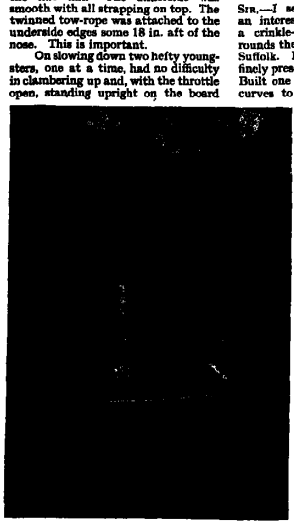
I have in my collection a view of Ditchley House, Oxfordshire, taken from a drawing by one Luke Sullivan, 1789, which appears almost identical to the picture you give. My view is taken from a slightly different position rather more to the right. Contemporary photographs that I have of the house are all of the entrance front and not the garden front, which you illustrate, but, even so, the proportions and the number of windows are the same.

I might add that as the house is so typical of 18th-century design with its central block and outlying wings and as little detail is discernible in the marquetry design, it could quite easily be confused with numerous other similar houses.—W. F. MCCAUSLAND, 18, *Milton Street, Somerfield, Christchurch, S.W.1., New Zealand.*

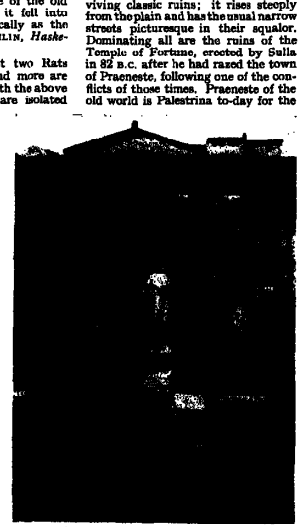
## PRAENESTE AND WILLIAM KENT

SIR,—In his article, *A Georgian Arcady*, Mr. Hussey in describing William Kent's Praeneste in the gardens at Rousham mentioned that the structure was probably so christened from the terrace forecourt, supported on an arcade, of the Temple of Fortune at Palestrina, the ancient Praeneste. Your readers may care to see the photographs and notes I made a few years ago after one of our visits to Palestrina. With all due deference to the footnote to the article, I should not call Palestrina a "resort" now (though it was in classical times) but a mediaval town where there is much to please lovers of ancient art and architecture and those interested in that wonder of the ancient world, the Temple of the *Sortes Fortunae Praenestinae.*

Palestrina is a rocky mountain town, built out of and over the surviving classic ruins; it rises steeply from the plain and has the usual narrow streets picturesque in their squalor. Dominating all are the ruins of the Temple of Fortune, erected by Sulla in 82 B.C. after he had razed the town of Praeneste, following one of the conflicts of those times. Praeneste of the old world is Palestrina to-day for the



THE FOUNTAIN AT PALESTRINA BELOW THE TERRACE OF THE TEMPLE OF FORTUNE
*See letter: Praeneste and William Kent*



CLASSICAL COLUMNS OF THE TEMPLE EMBEDDED IN THE CASTLE OF THE BARBERINI
*See letter: Praeneste and William Kent*

temple occupied the whole area of the present town.

Cicero tells us of the origin of this temple. In consequence of certain dreams, a piece of oak was found in an excavated rock, and on the oak were engraved ancient characters giving directions for the ceremonies of the Sortes, an oracle whose replies to anxious questioners were sometimes too obscure to be understood. By the time Cicero wrote the fame of the temple was waning. Praeneste seems to have attracted a good deal of attention apart from the temple. Virgil wrote in the *Aeneid* of its fresh air and cool breezes; Horace enjoyed a rest from his posing in Rome and frequently visited it.

The life of Palestrina centres upon the fountain just below the castle of the Barberini, just such a fountain and terrace above it as we should expect to find in Kent's garden. An antique statue stands in a niche above the basin into which the water flows crystal clear from a mountain spring. It is delightful to watch the easy grace with which the copper pots are lifted by the women and girls who move off down the narrow streets with slow, deliberate steps.

The mediæval castle of the Barberini, in which remains of the temple are seen, contains in one of the deserted rooms, the wonderful mosaic floor found in the ruins of the temple by the Barberini in the sixteenth century. Covering a great part of the floor, the mosaic illustrates the joy of the Egyptians at the inundation of the Nile. Curious sea monsters and fish disport themselves in a river, indolent Romans lie on couches in a pergola covered with flowers, and slaves are rowing canoes; the whole mosaic glows with life and colour.

The statue of Palestrina, the great composer of church music, stands in the principal piazza in front of the mediæval building where Corinthian pillars from the Temple of Fortune form part of the wall. Incorporated into the temple ruins are early 14th-century buildings dating from the time when the never-ending feud between the Pope and Colonna made rebuilding necessary after the usual destruction. The Barberini castle is uninhabited now; the noble, empty rooms re-echo only to the voices of those who come from Rome to see the mosaic and remain to gaze at the wonderful panorama from its windows.—DOROTHY HAMILTON DEAN, *Tresilian, Llantwit Major, Glamorgan.*

## AN ITINERANT BASKET-MAKER

SIR,—What must be a very ancient craft is still carried on by the cheerful itinerant maker of baskets shown in my photograph. The materials used are withies or willow branches selected from just the right kind of willow tree. This basket was being made for a farmer's wife and follows the traditional pattern.—D. PEDLEY, *Urmston, Manchester.*

MAKING A BASKET FROM WITHIES

*See letter: An Itinerant Basket-maker*

IN FULL THREAT DISPLAY

*See letter: The Angry Robin*

## THE ANGRY ROBIN

SIR,—Some time ago you published an article of mine with a number of photographs illustrating the robin's threat display. I made a great many exposures of this difficult subject, but failed to get just what I wanted. Since then I have been a little more successful. With some robins, at the height of the display the head and tail are pointed upwards. The feathers of the throat, crown and breast are ruffled, and the bird in its vehemence sways and totters drunkenly from side to side. It is an absurd pose, and not, I should imagine, an easy one to maintain. To do so the bird must have a really firm grip of its perch. The enclosed photograph, despite its obvious faults, does I think clearly show how tightly clasped are the bird's feet around their support.—M. S. W., *Windermere, Westmorland.*

## ON GLASTONBURY TOR

SIR,—The piece of sculpture to which your correspondent, Mr. S. F. Philpott, refers (June 7) on the west end of the chapel of St. Michael on Glastonbury Tor depicts St. Bride or St. Bridget, who, according to tradition, accompanied our Lord and St. Joseph of Arimathea to Britain, and who is said to have supplied our Lord with milk by herself milking a cow.

I have never before heard the suggestion that that carving belonged to the earlier church, destroyed by an earthquake or landslide in 1276. Strangely enough Collinson, writing of the present tower in 1791, does not mention St. Bride, but refers to another carving, then in position, on the opposite side of the tower wall. He says, "At the west end of it (the building) is carved the figure of St. Michael the Archangel, holding in his hand a pair of scales, in one of which is the Bible, in the other a devil, and another devil languid by striving to make weight, but both are too light."

Considering the number of carvings and other relics remaining from both the present and the earlier church, it is difficult to say to which these plaques may have belonged, but I should judge to the present building, and that they are in their original positions.—EVELYN V. CLARK, *Street, Somerset.*

## THE EARTHQUAKE OF 1276

SIR,—The letter *Milking in Stone*, (June 7) referred to St. Michael's Chapel, on the summit of Glastonbury Tor, Somerset, having been built to replace one destroyed by an earthquake in 1276. It is of interest to hear of an earthquake in this country, especially as it occurred nearly 700 years ago, and perhaps a reader or geologist could inform me as to the severity and extent of the shock in this incident, as tremors of sufficient intensity to destroy buildings are very rare in Great Britain. The chapel might have been destroyed by the displacement of a fault in the immediate vicinity of Glastonbury Tor, in which case the damage would have been confined to that specific area. Is there evidence of any other damage arising from the same earthquake?—STEPHEN GARNER, *Pedley Hill, Adlington, near Macclesfield, Cheshire.*

[The detached bell-tower at Canterbury Cathedral fell as the result of an earthquake on May 21, 1382.—ED.]

## TRACTOR WHEEL SLIP

SIR,—As the copy of COUNTRY LIFE which is sent to me, and later handed on to others, circulates first to several people in England, I have only just received the copy of April 19. Although, from reading his articles, I believe that Cincinnatus is less interested in mechanisation than in many of the other aspects of farming, I feel that I must write to correct the impression left by the engineer he quotes on the subject of tractor wheel slip.

It is true that this problem has had long consideration from designers, and carrying the engine more on the rear wheels is no solution. The reason for this is that when the power of the engine is applied to the rear wheels the same force which makes the wheels turn makes the front wheels tend to rise, and weight is transferred from the front wheels to the rear. Hence on a well designed tractor the weight distribution, when the tractor is standing, is about two-thirds on the rear wheels and one-third on the front, and when it is working nearly all the weight is on the rear wheels, the front carrying only enough to ensure good steering.

In some cases provision is even made for the addition of weight to the front end in order to obtain good steering under difficult conditions. An extreme example of the principle was noticeable in a popular tractor which, owing to its design, had a dangerous tendency to rear up and turn over backwards, as it has often been known to do when the driver was not quick enough in disengaging the clutch. With the old type of drawbar the pull tended to lift the *front* wheels.—C. BAGEHOT, Manager of the Machinery Pool of the Agricultural Production Board of the Government of Kenya.

## ROOKS REMEMBER

SIR—The interest aroused in me after reading the previous letters on the capriciousness of rooks has prompted me to relate the following incident which took place about thirty years ago in County Mayo, Ireland.

In the long avenue on the banks of the Bunree River, the rooks fulfilled their yearly custom of establishing a busy rookery. There being a difference of opinion in the family, as to the desirability of their proximity to the house, my mother took advantage of one of my father's absences in the spring, and had some of the rooks shot. The entire community deserted their nests and, flying the short quarter mile across our lawn and the river, established a new rookery exactly opposite their old one, where they continued to build year after year undisturbed.

Strangely they never returned again to their old haunt, which surely must mean that the apprehension of danger was transmitted in some way beyond our understanding.—MAUD GARVEY BATTEN, *Chappaqua, New York, U.S.A.*

## ROMAN CHESTER

SIR,—When labour is again available for purposes other than bomb-damage repair and building, it is to be hoped that steps will be taken by the Chester authorities partially to excavate the Roman amphitheatre, discovered a few years prior to the outbreak of war, just outside the city wall. The arena was located when a new stretch of road from the modern Newgate to St. John's Church was about to be constructed. It was found to be elliptical in shape, 314 feet in length by 286 feet broad, but it will only be possible to bring half of it to light, as the remainder is buried beneath a large building of a religious order. The delay, in times of plenty, was due to the fact that a large office block, belonging, I think, to the Cheshire County Council, stood over the half to be unearthed, and alternative accommodation was required before the offices could be vacated. I feel sure that this amphitheatre when uncovered and restored to something like its original appearance will make the Newgate area of Chester a magnet for all those interested in Roman Britain.

Already the foundations of the original corner tower of the Roman fortress of Deva, shown in the accompanying photograph, have been preserved close to the amphitheatre site. The remains of the tower were discovered when a stretch of the adjacent city wall collapsed, necessitating the demolition of some old cottage property. The Roman remains lay under the flags of the prosaic backyards.—CYRIL R. ROWSON, *Liverpool 11.*

ROMAN FOUNDATIONS OF A CORNER TOWER BELOW THE MEDIÆVAL WALL AT CHESTER

*See letter: Roman Chester*

## CUCKOO'S EGGS

SIR,—At about 4.45 p.m. on June 3 I found a hedge-sparrow's nest in a small clipped yew tree here. There were two hedge-sparrow's eggs which I positively identified in the nest. About half an hour later there was an unusually loud disturbance by a cuckoo or cuckoos, with much manifestation of the "bubbling" note, near the position of the hedge-sparrow's

nest, which I commented on to my wife at the time.

At about 6 p.m. that evening I glanced into the nest again and found that one of the hedge-sparrow's eggs had disappeared and had been replaced by a cuckoo's egg. There was no sign of the missing hedge-sparrow's egg near the nest. Since then another hedge-sparrow's egg has been laid.

This would seem to throw doubt on the theory, recently advanced, that the cuckoo's eggs are laid by the hen host and not by the hen cuckoo.—JOHN LITCHFIELD-SPEER, (Capt., R.N.,) *Snowfield, Bearsted, near Maidstone, Kent.*

[No ornithologist questions that the cuckoo's egg is the product of the hen cuckoo. Stories to the contrary are just "old wives' tales."—ED.]

## AN OLD ESSEX HALL

SIR,—Mr. R. T. Lang's article *Quiet By-ways of Essex* in your issue of June 14 includes a photograph entitled Old Cottages at Tollesbury. These "old cottages" are in reality Tollesbury Hall, a manor house of very great age which some time in the last century was converted into two

TOLLESBURY HALL TO-DAY
*See letter: An Old Essex Hall*

cottages and a small house (that part on the right of the photograph). The living-room of this house was, I understand, until recently, and by some people still is, referred to as the Court House, a fine room with a great open fireplace and wealth of beams.

Tradition has it that the house was built by Henry VIII, for it is certain that this King did present the manor of Tollesbury to his daughter, later Queen Mary. If he did, in fact, build it, how much of the present structure dates from his time I cannot say, for additions and alterations, including the sash windows, are obvious; but it is certain that the place is of very great antiquity, although I personally believe not quite so old as some would make out.

The photograph is in some ways deceptive in that it gives the impression that the village street passes close by the front of the building, whereas this roadway is merely part of a farm-yard which now covers all the grounds of the old house, a farm-yard with an unfortunately all too liberal share of corrugated iron buildings.

Your correspondent's photograph would seem to have been taken shortly before the war. By comparison my accompanying one will show what a few years' neglect will do to places of this type. This property has recently come into my possession and it is my intention eventually to restore it to some of its former state as Tollesbury Hall and to live there myself.

Since a few weeks ago you published an article on pargetting in which it was regretted that the art is all but lost, the modern labourer being too self-conscious to execute those fine flowing lines and decorated squares, your readers may be interested to know that the first builder I approached, a local man with a great pride in his work, himself suggested this form of plaster decoration, for the whole front must immediately be replastered to save the fabric. The elaborate designs such as men and birds illustrated in the article are obviously impossible in these days of building permits, but the simple geometrically decorated panels and borders remain and these he intends to include in his work.—A. C. G. CRAIGIE-LUCAS, *North Runcton, King's Lynn, Norfolk.*

[We are glad to hear from our correspondent that he intends to restore the picturesque cottages at Tollesbury which were once Tollesbury Hall and to replaster the exterior using the traditional patterns. An example of modern pargetting was illustrated in last week's issue. A recent tour through East Anglia revealed that this charming East Anglian mode of decorating timber houses is by no means dead. The Royal Commission on Historical Monuments (Essex) dates the building as probably fifteenth century and suggests that it originally consisted of a great hall with cross wings east and west.—ED.]

## BUILDING AN ARAB DHOW

SIR,—Arab dhows have been built at Aden for many hundreds of years. In fact, Aden shares with Koweit on the Persian Gulf the dhow building industry of Arabia. This is remarkable because at neither Aden nor Koweit does any suitable wood for shipbuilding grow. All wood used by the dhow builders is brought by other dhows from the east coast of Africa.

Equally remarkable is the method of construction used for the ribs of the hull. The accompanying picture, which I took at Aden, of the incomplete hull of the largest size of dhow shows the massive ribs, which have been hewn roughly square from naturally bent timber. No artificial method of bending is used. Another interesting fact is that dhows are not built to any particular weight specification but to carry a certain number of bales of dates.

My second picture shows an ocean-going dhow being towed by its crew out of Aden harbour.—F. L. N., *Wiltshire.*

## A WEEKLY GIFT OF LOAVES

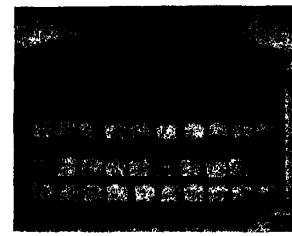
SIR,—In these days of austere rationing when, to elderly poor, gifts of loaves of bread must be more than usually welcome, it is good to know that at Aldborough in Yorkshire (the Roman *Isurium*) 20 loaves are still distributed after morning service to the indigent and to one or two large families by trustees under the will of Mark Smithson (1787).

Provision was also made for £10 to be distributed to bell-ringers at Christmas. Suitable clothes are now substituted for "ten stuff gowns, ten woolsey petticoats, and ten black stuff bonnets to be given to the ten most ancient poor women," as well as £10 in butcher's meat—altogether a very generous benefaction in the aggregate, for Aldborough is not a particularly large village.—HAROLD G. GRAINGER, *34, Headingley Avenue, Leeds, Yorkshire.*

## EARTHING UP POTATOES

SIR,—A recent radio discussion on the advantages or otherwise of flat land versus earthed-up potato culture reminds me of the one season during which I tried to augment the war-time crop by growing some in my modest apiary. A sunny, well-sheltered square of turf, about four perch, it had lain idle for years because an experienced bee-master had told me that nothing should be cultivated in the vicinity of beehives. The least thing disturbs and infuriates these temperamental creatures and disturbed bees, apart from being undesirable company, do not fulfil their natural function.

Bearing the advice in mind, I nevertheless argued to myself that the cultivation of a few potatoes would not cause undue disturbance. Planting, hand hoeing, earthing up and lifting are four simple operations which could surely be performed on those days when adverse weather conditions prevented the bees from flying. And there would be long light evenings when tired bees would drop on to the alighting board and hurry in to sleep. I turned over the ground in February, when not even a wing showed at the hives' entrance. By mid-April working conditions were perfect. Choosing a cold, dry day I carried out the necessary tools and 14 lb. of Sharp's Express, new good quality seed.



THE BREAD SHELVES AT ALDBOROUGH
*See letter: A Weekly Gift of Loaves*

I started the first row two yards distant from the beehives. Before the completion of the second row there was an ominous ping somewhere around my head, a ping which painful experience had taught me meant business. Dodging into an adjacent shed for my hat and veil, I finished the planting with more speed than accuracy, to the accompaniment of an angry crescendo. Fertile maiden ground produced good results from that portion of the apiary which could receive the necessary attention. From first to last, however, it was impossible to hoe or earth up the four rows nearest the beehives. Shrouded in a mackintosh sheet, I hand-weeded one wet evening.

The lifting of the potatoes was accomplished with equal difficulty. I did not expect any great yield from the rows, which could not be moulded up, but I was scarcely prepared for the poverty of output which eventually rewarded my effort. Green as grass in spring, the potatoes varied in size from a pigeon's egg to a marble, which proves that our forefathers knew what they were about when they gave themselves the trouble of moulding up potatoes. It is unlikely that they did it for love of the extra labour involved.—M. A. S., *Northamptonshire.*

## THE CAT AND THE MAGPIE

SIR,—This morning I looked out of my window and saw our little cat (Mr. Boffin by name) walking up the drive, accompanied by what I thought was another cat, but as they came near I realised "the other cat" was a magpie, which was hopping along just behind Mr. Boffin. As I watched I saw Mr. Boffin roll on the ground and the magpie just stood and looked on. After a minute Mrs. Magpie thought it was her turn, so flew up into the air and to my astonishment I saw Mr. Boffin spring up and try to catch her. Nothing daunted, Mrs. Magpie came down to earth again and continued jumping around. Something then disturbed them and the magpie flew away to her nest.

Two days later I again saw Mr. Boffin and Mrs. Magpie playing together. Mr. Boffin was leading Mrs. Magpie up the garden path. Are they friends, or does the cat mesmerise the magpie?—MARJORIE SCRIMGEOUR, *Wissett Hall, Halesworth, Suffolk.*

[A magpie delights in teasing other birds and beasts. We have seen one side up behind a cat, tweak its tail, and spring back out of reach. In this case [illegible] seems to be holding its own. [illegible] have much respect for the keen [illegible] and sharp bill of Mrs. Magpie.—ED.]

## DIPPERS' NESTS

SIR,—It is unusual for a dipper to nest on a branch as shown in the photograph in COUNTRY LIFE for June 7. But in *The British Bird Book* (Kirkman), Section 3, opposite p. 398, there is a photograph by Riley Fortune of a dipper's nest in an exactly similar position on a dead branch over a river. I have seen many dippers' nests, but never one so placed.—E. W. HENDY, *Holt Ausbies, Porlock, Somerset.*

OCEAN-GOING DHOW BEING TOWED OUT OF ADEN HARBOUR

(Right) A DHOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION AT ADEN
*See letter: Building an Arab Dhow*

*Lucky Lady...*

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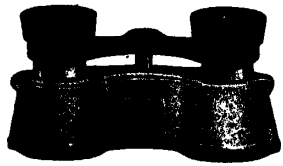

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**TRAVEL MID-WEEK**

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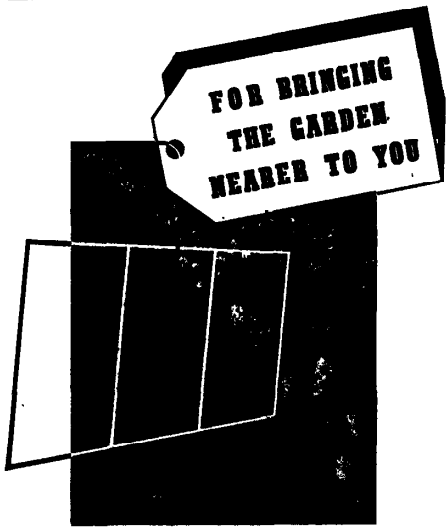


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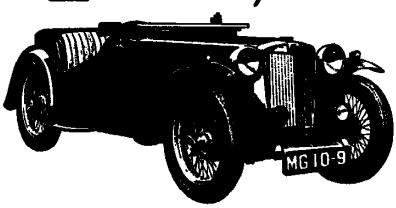


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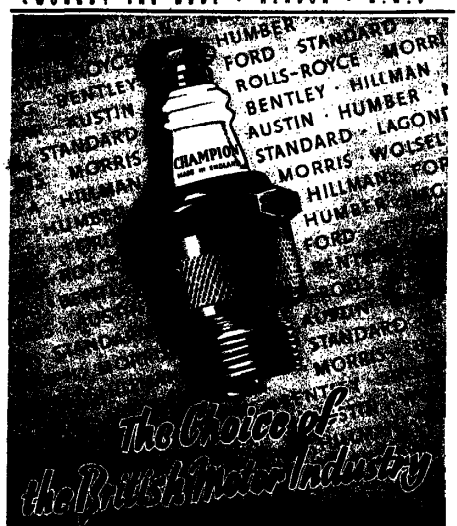


CHAMPION
PLUGS

# THE NATIONAL HORSE SHOW

By CHARLES GRAHAM HOPE

THE National Show at the White City, London, aroused the reflection that we want a poet to sing of the horse show as Adam Lindsay Gordon did of racing. When the best horses and riders of the land come together to compete for handsome prizes and for memories that never fade, there are movement and colour, tension and humour, triumph and disaster, hope and despair, all the elements of drama, and all inseparable from any doings connected with the showing of what A. P. Herbert, genially but mistakenly, has called "the almost obsolete but charming horse." The crowded classes and stands during the three days of the show, the lively enthusiasm from the thousands who had resisted the rival attractions even of the Indians at Lord's, showed that the horse, while retaining every bit of his charm, is far from being obsolete.

There was tension when two fine hunters, Moonstone and Beau Geste, fought it out in the Medium-weight Class, and we wondered whether Beau Geste would repeat his triumph at Windsor; but he had to give way to Moonstone. And then Wavering Boc, winner of the light-weights, and spanning the years as pre-war champion at Ballsbridge, came and took the Championship and the *Field* Cup from both of them. Moonstone was reserve. Three magnificent animals, these, both in action and at rest. It would have been interesting to have seen them put over a couple of the fences that lay so handy in the ring, say the bush fence and the post and rails.

There was some excitement when two unbeaten hackneys met, the twelve-hand atom of brilliance, Harlock Chiquita, and the lordly Black Magic of Nork, of the line of the famous Nork Spotlight. Each winner of its class, they doggedly fought out the championship, and the issue was not decided until Horace Smith had driven both of them round the ring to the delight of the crowd, who could not see enough of them. By the nature of things the good big 'un must beat the good little 'un, but the little brown mare ran the big black stallion very close, and I think it was the better hock action of the stallion that finally gave him the championship.

A popular loser in the Hackney Pony Class was Jason of the Golden Fleece, very determined and businesslike for all his youth—he is a four-year-old—and with his old gold coat and white mane and tail the nearest thing to a Palomino to be seen in England.

The hack classes produced no great excitement, but were pleasurable indeed to watch, if only for an exemplary performance by Harry Faudel-Phillips on Simple Simon. When I say exemplary I mean it; most of the riders in these classes, without any reflection on their horsemanship, could have benefited from watching how to put a hack through his paces in the ring. Royal Token, a nice-mannered chestnut, won the Class for Over 15 Hands and Not Exceeding 15.3 Hands, and June, a grey mare with a lovely action, won the 15 Hands and Under Class and the Championship.

As I stood in the queue afterwards I thought how interesting it would be if by some error the classes became mixed, and the hunters found themselves entered for the jumping, and the jumpers in the hunter and hack classes. In small local shows there is, or used to be, some overlapping, but as the class of show rises the compartments become more and more water-tight. I am not sure that this is really a good thing for the horse world in the days that lie ahead.

* * *

Cobs always make me think of farmers, bulldogs, hedgerows and muddy lanes with a tang of frost in the air, the curve of the Downs above the Vale of the White Horse, and potent sloe gin in farmers' kitchens, and everything that was English and good and wholesome in a time that is past. And cobs must have cobby names—no Bridal Morns, or Golden Ladies, or Golden Eagles; for me they must be Topsies, Tommies, or Janes, or Knobbies—and Knobby it was, a grand, grey, round cob, that won the Weight-carrying Cobs' Class, and rightly. He looked as if he could have carried the White City Stadium, and Wembley as a makeweight. How right he was, in name, type, and everything!

It was Children's Day on the Saturday, and enjoyed by everyone, or almost everyone. The very small gentleman next to me, whose mare had had a foal this spring, did not take such a rosy view of it all. "When is the grown-up jumping coming?" he kept on asking. But even he took a keen interest in the exhibits through a pair of borrowed binoculars—whether it was the riders or the use of the glasses that took first place I would not care to say.

* * *

I wonder if the riding children of to-day realise how lucky they are. When I first rode I was popped on a small bay cob (she was Topsy, of course!) tied with a leading rein to a fat, genial farmer, and away I went, bumpety-bump, until I got the rhythm of the trot. After two rides my instructor took off the leading rein, and said I was quite safe without it.

I certainly came to no harm, but I cannot recall any other riding lessons. There was usually never more than one children's pony class in the ordinary show, in which we all galloped madly and merrily round the ring until told to stop. There was no children's jumping that I can recall, and no Pony Club. One's parents and guardians also had a curiously old-fashioned prejudice about sending us to school; and there was no riding nor were there any shows until August, and no hunting until after Christmas. I could not help wondering how some of the young exhibitors, whose names figure in show after show during the season, escape the eagle eyes of the Board of Education. There is, incidentally, a strong tendency among young riding people, much deplored by all responsible riding masters, to neglect their lessons in favour of the horse.

However this may be, these youngsters can ride, and were a pleasure to watch, and to see seven-year-olds handling ponies of about the same age or less was a revelation. And it was a seven-year-old, little Elizabeth Spencer on Legend, a six-year-old chestnut gelding, who carried off the championship and the Rawnsley Challenge Cup. The National Pony Society's Medal for the best registered Mountain and Moorland pony was won by a Welsh pony, Flirt, another six-year-old, a nice, handy little grey, ridden by Rose Budgen. She also won the 12.2 Hands and Under Class, coming into the big winning class for the first time. The standard of these ponies, and of their training, was very high, though they tended to be rather too highly strung and full of "blood" for really safe workaday children's ponies.

"Then the leap"—one has to go back to Adam Lindsay Gordon again when one thinks of jumping:

*Thus the measured stroke, on elastic sward,*
*Of the sired three parts extended,*
*Hard hold, the breath of his nostrils broad,*
*With the golden ether blended:*
*Then the leap, the rise from the springy turf,*
*The rush through the buoyant air,*
*And the light shock landing—the veriest serf*
*Is an emperor then and there!*

There were many emperors during the three days of the show, for the jumping ran through the proceedings like a Wagner motif. There were six classes averaging about forty entries each, excluding the final championship for the *Daily Mail* Cup. The jumping was ragged at first but improved considerably as the show went on, although there were signs of staleness on the last day. The riding was generally typically English, efficient and practical but lacking the polish and not up to the high Continental standard.

MR. J. W. WOODHALL ON MARINA, WINNER OF THE "COUNTRY LIFE" CUP

* * *

The jumping really reached its peak on the second day for the COUNTRY LIFE Cup and the Touch and Out competition, in which there were six and four clear rounds respectively. The former was well won by Marina, an aged bay mare owned by S. W. Woodhall & Son, with two clear rounds. She also won on the first day, conceding altogether in four successive rounds only one and a half faults. The Touch and Out was won by Andsome, owned and ridden by R. J. O'Neill, who also won the *Daily Mail* Cup on the last day. These two were the most consistent jumpers throughout the show.

The children showed their elders and betters a thing or two in their jumping class; the standard of horsemanship was really high, and there was little of that pettishness that sometimes marks failure. John Betteridge and his Johnny B, last year's White City winners, looked like having everything their own way, but were beaten at the post, as it were, by Audrey Taylor on Spring.

So ended the first move of the Institute of the Horse towards Olympia, and if these three days were only an echo of the old days, they were certainly a resounding echo.

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*NEW BOOKS*

# AN INNOCENT IN THE W.L.A.

## *Reviews by HOWARD SPRING*

I HOPE it is not too unkind to say that I thought the most sprightly thing about Miss Shirley Joseph's book, *If Their Mothers Only Knew* (Faber, 7s. 6d.), was the title. This is a record of Miss Joseph's experiences in the Women's Land Army, and the title suggests such delicious naughtinesses, such perilous crossings of chasms on the frailest of tightropes, that, before reading the book, one wondered whether the reputation of that admirable branch of the services was to be blasted for ever.

But the W.L.A. may keep its head erect. If Miss Joseph received a shock or two—and the evidence of the book is of minor shocks indeed—it was through nothing but excess of innocence. Most girls, one imagines, do not need the participation of a war to show them that, for the majority, life has a rough and ready side.

Miss Joseph was very young—too young to join any other service—when she began her year's work with the W.L.A. In this army, she tells us, nine girls in ten come from the cities, from factories and offices. She had the advantage of knowing something of country life and everything about milking cows. I have never known or heard of anyone else who, without being obliged to do it, had a passion for milking, but at least Miss Joseph had. She tells us that, for years before the war started, her idea of a happy holiday was to hunt out the nearest dairy herd and volunteer her services as a milkmaid.

"I had now," she writes of her experiences before the war, "reached the stage of trying to break my own record for the number of cows milked in one day. Twenty was the most I ever did in Sussex, and in Dorset it rose to thirty. . . . I think I must have handled every breed of cow known to the English farmer."

### THE OFFICIAL MIND

Because of this real knowledge of one subject, I shall write rather of what Miss Joseph has to say about cows and milking than of those other experiences which I cannot imagine shocking a Primitive Methodist mother in the days of Jane Austen. Primarily, notice this example of the extraordinary working of the official mind, hidebound by rule and precedent. Some of the girls who join the W.L.A. are sent for a month's training in milking and, says Miss Joseph, "learn next to nothing." She herself did not take this course. On one occasion she was sent to do a week's relief milking at a farm. When it was over, "the Labour Officer said to me, 'I've had an extremely good report of your work and conduct from Mr. Amor, but I shouldn't have sent you if I'd known you had never had any training in milking.' So far as he was concerned, a month's official training was far more important than being able to milk since the age of nine."

Well, seeing that these people are likely to be round our necks more and more abundantly, we shall have to put up with them and their consequences. Let us hear something else that Miss Joseph has to say about milk. She worked on a farm which was "supposed to be tuberculin-tested and accredited." She writes: "I say supposed, because a more slack place I have yet to find. It was quite an event if the cows were washed, and until we went there the sheds were only occasionally swilled down. . . . This T.T. business is a farce unless it has the farmer's complete co-operation. I have known farms where the 'suspected' cows are turned out into some distant field when the inspector's visit is expected, to be brought back into the milking herd when he has gone. Even if a farmer is told that a certain cow must be pst down, he will probably 'forget' all about it, as he doesn't have to produce evidence of the slaughtering."

### TRAINING AND REALITY

Miss Joseph is (as I think rightly) sarcastic about the Government's methods of training girls for the land. "The girls have separate bedrooms, tastefully furnished with pretty chintz curtains and painted furniture. . . . They learn to milk by pulling weird-looking rubber udders attached to imitation 'bags' which are strung from a wooden frame. These 'cows' are arranged in soldierly formation, usually on a lawn, and the girls, in spotless white smocks, carrying spotless buckets and stools, happily squeeze water while the cow, metaphorically speaking, contentedly chews the cud."

It indeed sounds most metaphorical and even transcendental, and one can understand and approve Miss Joseph's remark that, when the practical work comes along, it is "like sending a Norland nurse to look after children in a slum tenement."

Not one girl in twenty, Miss Joseph thinks, has any wish to remain on the land when the "emergency" is over; and only one in ten, she found, gave as a reason for joining the W.L.A. a genuine liking for the country and open-air life. By far the greater majority joined "because there was no nonsense about discipline." Our author dislikes this attitude, and so do I. Nonsense about

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**IF THEIR MOTHERS ONLY KNEW.** *By Shirley Joseph*
(Faber, 7s. 6d.)

**RODIN.** *By Rainer Maria Rilke. Translated by Jessie Lemont and Hans Trausil*
(Grey Walls Press, 7s. 6d.)

**THE GASCON.** *By J. B. Morton*
(Macmillan, 8s. 6d.)

*discipline is one thing; discipline is another;* and alas! the two are often confused by those whose only desire is to have no discipline at all.

### THE SCULPTOR RODIN

The poet Rainer Maria Rilke was for a time secretary to the sculptor Rodin, and he wrote a short study of Rodin's work. This has now been translated from the German by Jessie Lemont and Hans Trausil, and published, with the title *Rodin*, by the Grey Walls Press (7s. 6d.).

This is not a book to be commended far and wide. It is not even a book to be commended to all who are interested in sculpture. It is a book to be commended only to those who would like to read a poet's views, poetically expressed, concerning a body of work which he appears to have worshipped just this side idolatry. There is little about Rodin himself. A fugitive hint here and there suggests his early poverty, his resolute will to do what he had in mind, let those about him say or think what they might; and—it is the only biographical "fact" frankly put down—we learn that "Rodin had several studios,some that are well known, in which visitors and letters found him. There were others in out-of-the-way, secluded places of which no one knew. These *rooms* were like *cells*, bare, poor and grey with dust, but their poverty was like the great, grey poverty of God out of which trees bud in March. Something of the spring was in each of the rooms, a silent promise and a deep seriousness."

This passage gives a fair idea of Rilke's manner of approach to his subject which, let us repeat, is rather Rodin's art than Rodin: a manner of great gravity, a worship offered in a poet's words. Rilke believed that towards the end Rodin had reached perfection: "he could err no more." This came from a supreme dedication to art and from incessant labour to make himself a fit servant. Writing of the sculpture called Monument of Work, Rilke says: "Rodin did not conceive work as a monumental figure or a great gesture; for work is something near, it takes place in the shops, in the rooms, in the heads, in the dark. He knows, for he, too, worked; he worked incessantly; *his life passed like* a single working day."

### METHOD OF WORK

He goes more deeply, in another passage, into Rodin's *method* of work. Its foundation was "a silent and conscientious observation of life. . . . He did not give rein to his imagination, he did not invent, he did not neglect for a moment the hard struggle with his tools. It would have been easy to surmount, as if with wings, these difficulties. He walked side by side with his work over the far and distant stretches that had to be covered, like a ploughman behind his plough."

This all has the ring of truth. We know those artists who surmount their difficulties "as if with wings," which is not to say "with wings." We know them, in words as well as paint and stone, and the sleight of hand that hides the weak or ugly patch. I feel that this whole book is directed more to creative artists—there can be such, of course, in mere living—than to anyone else; and the supreme thing to be learned from it is the validity of ancient virtues: humility in seeking the way; unwavering persistence in following it. "To create an image," says Rilke, "meant to Rodin to seek eternity in a countenance," and to seek eternity, wheresoever and howsoever, is to embark on a long and arduous road which has a habit of shaking from its back all but a few stayers. This is a fascinating interpretation, rather than record, of Rodin's progress along that road.

A number of Rodin's works are here reproduced, but I found it a help to follow Rilke's disquisition with the Phaidon edition of Rodin's works alongside me. I advise anyone else to do so who finds it possible.

### STORY OF A GASCON

Mr. J. B. Morton, who is well known as both a humorous and historical writer, has not, so far as I know, given us a novel before *The Gascon*, now published by Macmillan (8s. 6d.). Gascons in fiction tend to run to a type, and Armand Birros in this book is no "ideological deviationist." The picture on the jacket shows him looking remarkably like Mr. Douglas Fairbanks, jun., in the film of *The Prisoner of Zenda*, and that indeed is how he is. He is nimble in throwing a leg over a horse—need I say a "great black" horse?—at fighting with laughter on his lips against heavy odds. He rips out round oaths, adores fair ladies, and is no more at a disadvantage on the roofs of Paris than in the fields of Picardy. In short, he is—a Gascon.

His hazards and adventures might have made the traditional novel woven round this character had he been kept central and significant. As it is, the book lacks structure and cohesion. The ladies whom Armand meets at the beginning soon drift to their own dooms and destinies, and the book flies apart, now into descriptions of what is happening to them, now to an account of Birros's disparate escapades, and again into neat historical vignettes of doings in revolutionary France. All the bits are good in a rather too-much-written-about fashion, but they tend to have little to do with one another. The bones are here, but they have not been assembled into a passable skeleton.

## VERSE OLD AND NEW

TO write a poem to order *is so difficult* that usually we wish it had been impossible. But, in *Each Silver Fly* (Cambridge University Press, 1s. 6d.), which won the Seatonian Prize for 1945, it must have been a case of love at first sight between author and subject. "A just balance and scales are the Lord's" was the subject; and the quiet, contemplative trend of Frank Kendon's mind made it an ideal one for him. So here is a poem that ranges among the imponderables, looks cruelty and injustice in the eye, extenuates nothing, sets down nothing in empty cleverness, and ends by finding God in

*The mere humanity of our runagate hearts*

—a wonderful line.

Eight centuries earlier, a Chinese poet, Fan Cheng-Ta, also contemplated the universe. But, in his case,

*With nothing to do but enjoy the bright air,*

during a year spent in rural retirement he contented himself with a series of pictures of 12th-century Chinese country scenes; and these have been rendered into English verse by Gerald Bullett, whose name is its own recommendation. In *The Golden Year* (Cambridge University Press, 5s.) an era comes to life in such pictures as this of falling dusk:

*In a boat light as a leaf, still visible,*
*My lad-of-all-work plies his single scull.*
*Alone, I weave my fence, of lithe bamboo,*
*And ducks go primly homewards, two by two.*

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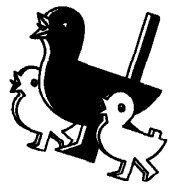
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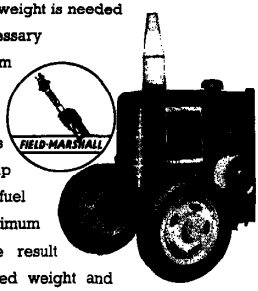


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*FARMING NOTES*

# FARMERS' TRADING SOCIETIES

THERE are now four farmers' trading societies whose turnover is over £1,000,000 a year. They are the Eastern Counties Farmers' Co-operative Society, the Preston Farmers' Trading Society, the Southern Counties Agricultural Trading Society, and Yorkshire Farmers, Ltd. The progress being made by farmers' co-operative societies should, in my view, be welcomed. I much prefer to see farmers doing things for themselves rather than leaving so much to the Ministry of Agriculture and the Department of Agriculture for Scotland. Indeed, if farmers do not come together to arrange the marketing and distribution of home produce in the most economical way, we must expect the Ministries of Agriculture and Food to interfere with our business even more than they do at the moment. It is relevant to note that at the June meeting of the Council of Agriculture for England a resolution was adopted calling on the Ministry to re-organise the distribution of home produce. What steps is the farming industry taking to tackle this problem in a comprehensive way? The N.F.U. has now fathered a central association for all farmers' co-operative societies. Not all of them are yet members. Indeed it is one of the great disadvantages of the farmers' co-operative movement in this country that many of the societies are working almost entirely on their own. Will the N.F.U. give a lead to bring them together and make producers' co-operation in marketing the alternative to an all-embracing Government marketing scheme? I have always considered that farmers' leaders in Britain have been chary of giving whole-hearted support to agricultural co-operation. Some of the most successful businessmen in farming have also had ties with the distributive side or with firms supplying farm requisites. Yet, when we see the farmers' co-operative societies in this country paying, in addition to five per cent. interest on capital, bonuses on trade varying from 1s. 3d. to 1s. 10d. in the £, it should make all of us realise that there is something worth while in co-operation.

### *Hill Farming*

HILL grazings in Scotland account for 70 per cent. of the total farm land, and in England and Wales, 17 per cent. In Northern Ireland, hill grazings represent 31 per cent. of the total agricultural land. These big areas need help and Parliament has before it now a Hill Farming Bill. People may well ask why this section of our farming should need assistance when farming generally has prospered financially during the war years. The answer is that the rough hill farms, where there is little land that can be ploughed and cropped, have not benefited from the improved and secure markets for cereals, potatoes and other arable crops. They are chiefly concerned with rearing hardy sheep and cattle and the markets for this livestock have not improved greatly. As more and more land was ploughed for direct sale crops on the lower ground, there was less food for the store sheep and cattle from the hills. The incomes of hill farmers have shown relatively modest improvement, but expenditure has mounted at least as much as in other kinds of farming. Wages, which amount to about a third of the hill farmer's expenditure, have increased by at least 100 per cent. Rents are much as they were. It was to meet this set of circumstances that the Government during the war gave hill sheep subsidies. Seven million pounds has been spent on this, and now there are further plans for improving the hill grazings.

### *Mixed Stocking*

IF the management of lowland grazings is any criterion for the hills, improvement in the grazings will depend largely upon the numbers of cattle in proportion to sheep which are carried on the hill farms. The encroachment of bracken down to the lower level grazings is attributable to the lack of sufficient cattle on many farms. Cattle and sheep should be complementary. Overstocking with sheep leads to disease troubles which do not appear where cattle graze alternately with sheep. It is said truly enough that one sheep is the worst enemy of another sheep. Grazings overstocked with sheep soon become infected with stomach worms and no amount of dosing the sheep or dressing the land will put this right so effectively or economically as alternate stocking with cattle. Nature has so arranged matters that the stomach worm of the sheep does not affect cattle. They are indeed the best sweeteners of sheep grazings.

### *Quality in Hay*

MUCH of the early cut hay lost its special virtue by the time it reached the rick. On my own farm our first cut taken on June 7 was not ricked until June 25. Lying in swathe as it was cut, the grass took little harm, but, when the weather mended and we could turn the swathe to get thorough drying, the clover leaves were perished and so the most valuable constituent of the hay has been lost. This is one of the risks inherent in making grass into hay. Silage-making is more certain in our unpredictable climate. It is more laborious too, and many farmers still prefer naturally enough to rely on a chance to make hay. Several of my neighbours have been baling hay in the field, and I hope to bale one field of seeds hay this week. It is a longer business than putting hay into a rick, especially where hay sweeps can be used, but baling in the field unquestionably saves labour in the end. I learned last summer the importance of leaving the bales out of doors to cool off for a few days. When fresh material is pressed tightly as it is in a bale of hay, there is bound to be some heating. Left out in the field for a few days, the bales take no harm even if the weather is showery, but if they are put straight away into the barn, there is a risk of overheating and consequent fustiness being experienced.

### *Next Year's Royal Show*

AS yet the Royal Agricultural Society of England has not had a firm answer from the Minister of Agriculture about next year's Royal Show. Breed societies and trade exhibitors have to make their plans well ahead. It is understandable that the Ministry of Agriculture should walk warily when timber, labour and food are involved, but it is only fair to the Society that a decision should be reached now. The Royal Show of the future will have to embody some of the features of the successful Farm Weeks which have been held at Nottingham, Newcastle-on-Tyne and other industrial centres. Beautifully presented, pedigree cattle are all very well. They are delightful to look at, but the farmer of to-day and the townsman is interested in production.

CINCINNATUS.

THE ESTATE MARKET

# A CURIOUS FORM OF TENURE

SALES of City Corporation leaseholds in Cornhill Street have just been effected by Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley, Nos. 14 and 15, making £96,000, and by Messrs. Debenham, Tewson and Chinnocks—Nos. 46 and 47, in two lots, for £49,700. The term, in the case of the latter lots, was an unexpired one of 1,948 years, and the ground rents are only about £33 a year. It would, however, be a mistake to suppose that the Corporation of the City of London derives no other income from these very valuable properties.

The Law of Property Act, 1925, brought the question of the value of the leases into the forefront of legal argument, inasmuch as, pursuant to that statute, any perpetual leases became leases for 2,000 years. The matter was not a simple one to deal with because for some years the Corporation had got into the way of granting perpetually renewable leases for terms of 80 years at a time, the "fines" that leaseholders had had to pay being commuted.

## ORIGIN OF THE OWNERSHIP

THIS curious tenure originates from a lease taken from the Crown in 1537 of 27 acres along the old Tyburn Brook (which followed the line of the present Bond Street) at a rent of £4 13s. 4d. In 1628 the Corporation cancelled a royal debt of £350,000 in return for the grant of the freehold. Adopting what is now an inexplicable policy, the Corporation soon granted leases of the land to Lord Clarendon and the Marquess of Normanby at perfectly ridiculous nominal rents. Accusations of "jobbery" were bandied about at the time. In 1744 an anonymous pamphlet, purported to give "a succint history of an £100,000 jobb" (sic). Land of that value did not long remain uncovered, and an 18th-century City statement, which put the improved rentals at £14,250 a year, advised regarding one-eighth of each constituent part of that aggregate improvement as a ground rent. By an admitted error the legal effect of a resolution passed at that period by the Corporation was to turn the leases into perpetually renewable ones. Lord Normanby's rights were later sold to the Corporation for a low sum.

In course of time the Corporation did contrive to draw a more reasonable return from the property, through what are known as "fines on renewal." But ground rents of £3 a year on premises worth, freehold, £20,000, could hardly be called commensurate. It is perhaps remarkable that the Corporation retains anything of the estate considering the carelessness and incompetence of its members and advisers in the eighteenth century.

## THE MISUSE OF OPEN LAND

THE proposals for the formation of National Parks in England and Wales have been anxiously discussed by owners and agents through their representative organisations, including the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors and the Chartered Land Agents' Society. A memorandum which has just been delivered to the Government emphasises that the permanent welfare of those who live and work in a proposed National Park area is entitled to precedence over the transitory interests of ramblers and others.

It is especially important to prevent damage to farms. "Only a small proportion of the public can be trusted to shut gates, avoid disturbing lambing ewes, or in-calf cows, and to respect the fact that the land they are traversing is the main source of livelihood of a large part of the community." Rambling through woodlands and plantations involves risk of fire, particularly to young plantations, which should be entirely closed to ramblers for a period of years. Even in remote rural areas much damage is done, a typical complaint coming from a land agent in the Peak district: "I have heard more complaints of damage done by ramblers during the last six or eight months than in any other year during the thirty-four I have managed this estate. Farmers complain that their walls have been knocked down, gates left open, crops trampled down, isolated buildings broken into and slept in, the intruders using whatever structural timber they could find to light fires for cooking, and water supplies have been polluted."

The memorandum also points out that, if sporting rights and fishing reservations are extinguished or impaired, the result must be not only injury to their owners but a serious diminution of rateable values. To protect rural property and amenities against damage and the theft of produce would entail a formidable cost. The suggested choice of areas for National Parks is also criticised.

## TENURE OF FARMS: CONTEMPLATED CHANGES

THE fundamental principles of obtaining a maximum supply of food from the land have not undergone any change in the last five or six years, and one of the measures designed to uphold those principles was the prohibition, under the Defence Regulations, of the right of a landlord to give notice to a farmer to quit a holding. Other objects were also aimed at by the regulation, including the prevention of arbitrary action by buyers of land where such buyers might contemplate turning out a tenant in order to re-let a holding at a higher rent. By the regulation it was enacted that in the case of the sale of a farm subsequent to September, 1939, any notice to quit was of no effect. While good tenants were thus afforded a valuable protection there were undoubtedly instances of hardship, and pressure has been brought to bear on the Government to amend the regulation.

## EARLY NOTIFICATION

THERE was, and continues to be, a possibility of relaxing the provisions of the regulation in cases where the Ministry of Agriculture is willing to grant permission for notice to be given. Many applications are made to the Ministry for such permission, and, as in every other matter that has to be referred to Departments for consideration, delay often of a prolonged character ensues. For one thing, the officials have to be satisfied that the applicants are not seeking to make merely a speculative financial profit out of the proposed permission, and also that a change of tenure will not reduce the yield from any particular holding. One reason pleaded for the delay is that the majority of the applications are made at the Lady Day and Michaelmas quarters. So that the cases in which a justifiable case can be made out for endeavouring to get rid of a tenant may be dealt with promptly it is understood that the Ministry officials are desirous of early notification of the owner's wishes, and they have suggested that it would be well for applicants to deliver the details of each case as soon as it is possible to do so and not to wait until near Quarter Day. The Ministry is believed to look favourably on the idea of relaxing the regulation, but how soon they may give effect to such relaxation depends on circumstances beyond their control at the moment. ARBITER

She used to take her daily meals for granted. Then came rationing: just an emergency measure, she thought. But, after six years, the fear of famine haunts the world and reminds her that food production does not begin on the waitress's tray or the grocer's shelves. Back at her switchboard, she finds her thoughts turning to pastureland . . . ripening crops . . . granaries filled year by year with food won hardly from the earth. Food that must be planned and planted, tended and harvested, if the countryside is to feed the towns. She too is part of an unalterable law: if the earth is to nourish man, man must nourish the earth. That is why even the telephonist, as well as the farmer, has cause to remember that

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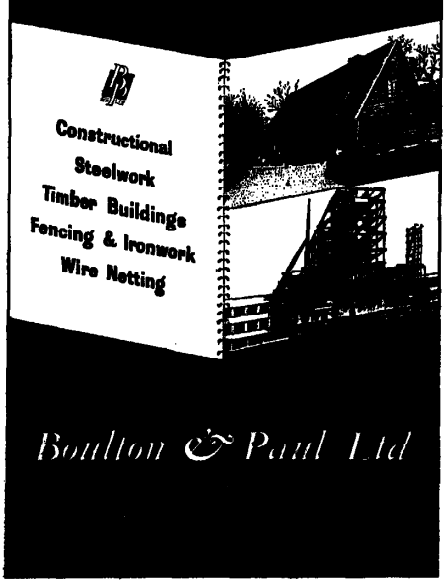
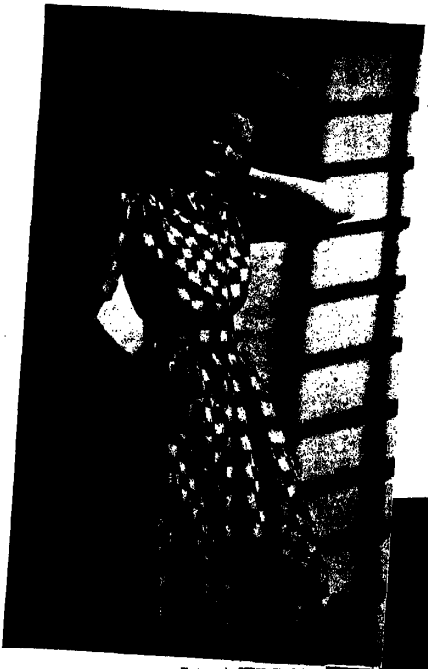


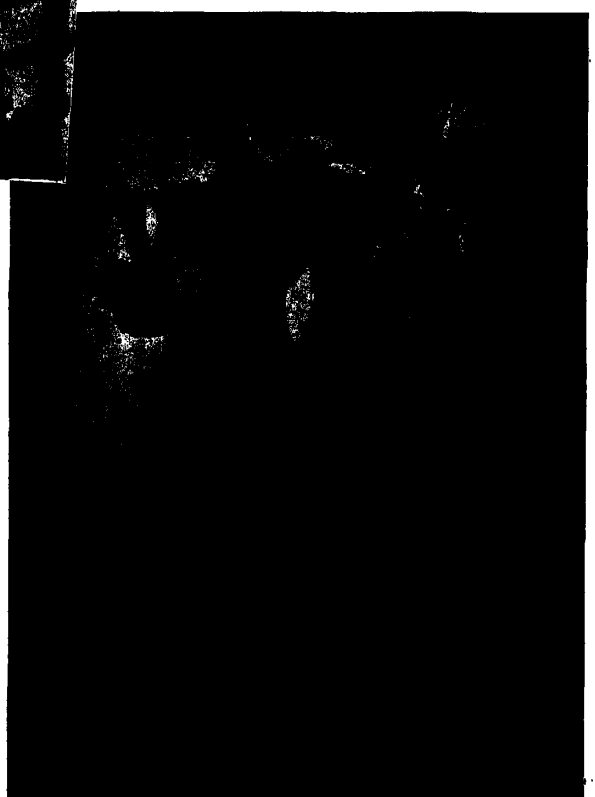


# RUSTIC FASHIONS

(*Left*) Super-lightweight wool for a dirndl frock printed in floral squares in two gay contrasting colours. Woollen from Silkella; dress by Monbijou

(*Below*) Garden frocks from Debenham and Freebody. White cotton sprigged with lemon, turquoise and cherry flowers and leaves, gathers above the waist. A crisp rayon, scarlet and white with fullness below the waist

Photograph: PETER CLARK



Photograph: ANTHONY BUCKLEY

THE complete circle of fashion is vividly illustrated in the interesting display of dresses and accessories now being held at Debenham and Freebody to commemorate their hundred-and-fiftieth anniversary. The collection is the famous one of Dr. C. Willett Cunnington, and the earliest ball dresses in rich silks and muslin were the styles that would have been bought by Debenham's first customers in the little shop in 4 Wigmore Street, the first home of the firm. And curiously enough, these dresses with their Vandyked fichus, low scooped-out décolletages, tiny waists and tight bodices are the styles that are the inspiration for the ball-gowns of next winter. The silks look incredibly fresh. Colours are clear and bright, and the fabrics are almost untouched, even the fragile white Indian muslins. There is a gorgeous ivory Spitalfields brocade dated 1838, a lustrous silk brocaded with red and pink roses and garden flowers and the colours might have been dyed this year. Evidently the rose, cherry, flesh pinks and salmon pinks were favourites for evening with our ancestors; so were the lavender, mauve, and a bright turquoise and Nattier blue.

Some enchanting accessories were displayed in cases in the various departments—a pair of evening boots, ravishing affairs in black velvet, buttoning in front with ten tiny buttons on ten tiny straps that allowed a band of the coloured silk stocking to show between. These were dated 1870. Then we saw the bronze brocaded bootees we have read about in romantic novels of the 'nineties. The gloves of the 'fifties, short, wrist-length, and fastening with one button, might be worn to-day; so might a summer bonnet dated 1898, much like a tulle and rose toque designed for Ascot, 1946.

The gossamer laces, white mull, cambric, and limp Indian muslins are exquisite. So are the elaborate fine embroidery on the flounced and tucked white underwear, underwear requiring hours of ironing, not to mention stitching; that shows the greatest change of all in style. A tea-gown of "Val" lace and cambric over surah is

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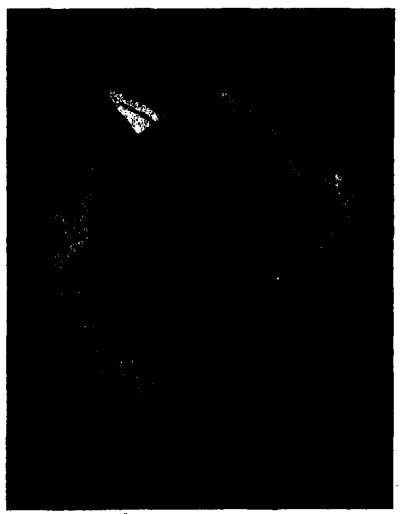

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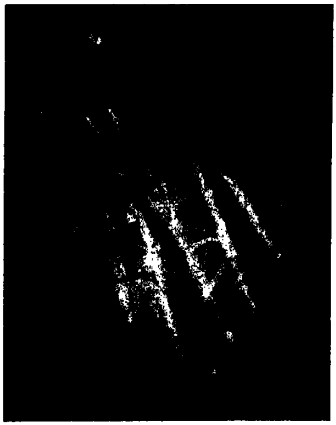

Jacquard squares. A flower square like an old Dutch painting, and Swan Lake, a ballet design in plum, petunia, violet, white and candy-pink

the real Edwardian confection of the Oscar Wilde period, flounces dragging on the ground and so seamed and stitched that never more than two inches of the cambric ever appear as one piece.

Old fabric names make a fascinating study in themselves—hailstone muslin, a diaphanous white fabric, tambour net, challis, white aerophane (1815-30), levantine, Pekin glacé, grenadine, Pekin moiré, barege, gros de Suez, quadrilled brocatelle.

Walking through to the dress department, we found the damsels of to-day rapturously buying printed frocks after years of uniform and summers of plain materials. By comparison with the elaborately fitted, much trimmed, long-skirted dresses in the exhibition these 1946 styles look streamlined. But by comparison with the austerity dresses of the last few summers they look positively exuberant. They have borrowed freely from the past with their scooped-out neckline, Little Lord Fauntleroy collars, puffed sleeves, demure round-necked bodices, gathered milkmaid skirts and drawstrings. The fine cottons have their ground almost obliterated by masses of tiny flowers and leaves printed in the clear colours of an herbaceous border. Cottons with the new finish that resists creasing to the utmost have flowery garlands laid across them; ginghams are brilliantly checked. For others the old blocks have been utilised and the fabrics look very reminiscent of some of the chintzes and brocades in the exhibition.

RAYONS come in the jewel colour range, designs are well spaced out and often in two colours only, a bright on white. Flowers are treated formally, and there are also many abstract designs. The dresses are charming with gathered skirts, high necklines often tying under the chin, or low with a fichu effect or a Bertha collar. Rustic sprigged frocks have a distinctly period look with their fichus, puffed sleeves undermade in coloured organdie and a coloured hem that looks like a petticoat peeping out.

Sun frocks are completely modern with their bare backs and knee-length skirts. Arden show them as aprons in chintz and printed linen with full skirts and crossed straps at the back. Some of these backless dresses for the beach, mostly printed in bright blue and red on white, have a bolero to slip on for lunching. Others go in for a knee-length, button-through dress over a two-piece of shorts or bloomers and brassière.

Fabric news is brighter. There is more of it and lots of prints. Liberty have printed rayons in a weave that looks like a linen. A charming design in leafy greens, with a daffodil yellow flower here and there, is repeated in tones of fuchsia and violet. It is ideal for garden frocks. And it is good to see plenty of printed cambrics and lawns here for the children again.

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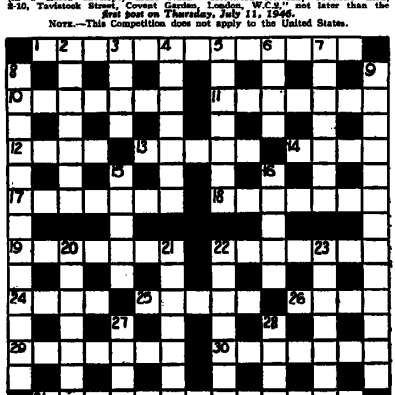
# CROSSWORD No. 858

Two guineas will be awarded for the first correct solution opened. Solutions (in a closed envelope) must reach "Crossword No. 858, COUNTRY LIFE, 2-10, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2," not later than the *first post on Thursday, July 11, 1946.*

NOTE.—This Competition does not apply to the United States.



*Name*.....
(*Mr., Mrs., etc.*)

*Address*.....

SOLUTION TO No. 857. *The winner of this Crossword, the clues of which appeared in the issue of June 28, will be announced next week.*

ACROSS.—1, Subterranean; 8, Lover; 9, Monastery; 11, County town; 12, Opal; 14, Absurd; 15, Angelico; 17, Darkling; 19, Speech; 22, Loft; 23, Hammerbeam; 25, Elemental; 26, Olive; 27, Chamber music. DOWN.—1, Savours; 2, Born to rule; 3, Ramity; 4, Renewing; 5, Nose; 6, Adelphi; 7, Black and blue; 10, Yellow-hammer; 13, Pepper-pots; 16, In battle; 18, Refresh; 20, Elegiac; 21, Emblem; 24, Term.

ACROSS

1. Go, rash prophet! (anagr.) (13)
10. Month in which the officer in command is to be retired, possibly (7)
11. "I am that he, that unfortunate he." —*Shakespeare* (7)
12 and 13. The wretch seems not to have been given his due (4, 5)
14. It is the part of some smart wits to do so (4)
17. Campers without purposes? (7)
18. How to make a happy home for lions (7)
19. Lets out (7)
22. Stick out for the scheme (7)
24. But it may be sweet (4)
25 and 26. Presumably a clean-shaven bird (9)
29. The police could not effect one precisely in a London square (7)
30. Distant, perhaps, not mean (7)
31. He bears up under it (5, 2, 6)

DOWN

2. Like one who has just escaped from an ordeal by fire? (7)
3. It may mean jug for him (4)
4. Non-heraldic supporters (7)
5. Just loving to make a fuss over his wedding gift (7)
6. "Home is the sailor, home from sea, And the hunter home from the ——". —*R. L. Stevenson* (4)
7. A King of Anjou married (7)
8. Free, perhaps, but it needs raiment, even though torn, to comply with (13)
9. Her speciality might be described as handcraft (13)
15 and 16. This is our race (10)
20. Kind of face to make a sure hit (7)
21. Not false hair treatment (7)
22. Complete saying in place of a parto speech (7)
23. You would hardly expect its possessor to be good-looking (4, 3)
27. 13th or 18th (4)
28. Create a disturbance (4)

The winner of Crossword No. 856 is Mrs. Amy M. Pearson, Lyndale, Grimsby, Lincolnshire.

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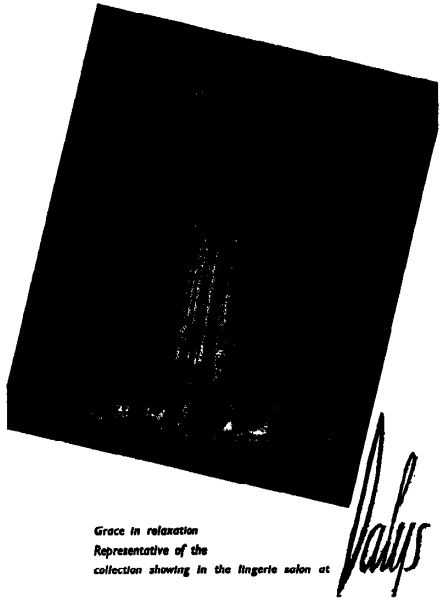


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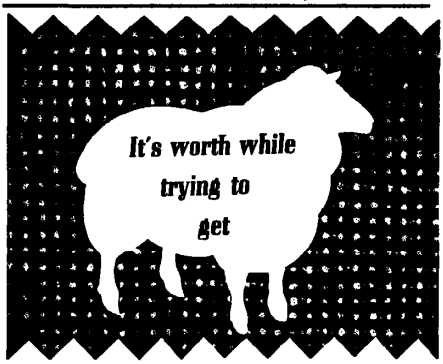


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HOUSE OR FARM LIGHTING PLANT capable of lighting over 100 bulbs, 220 volts A.C., 5, 6 amps., 50 cycle, 1 phase, 1,500 r.p.m., 3-h.p. Petter petrol engine. Built-in switch board with 45-volt excitation generator. 5 ft. long, 2 ft. 8 in. wide, 3 ft. 4½ in. high. Weight approximately 3¼ cwt. In perfect condition. Price £200.—WARD, Anchor Cottage, Shepperton, Middx.

LADIES' HOUSE SHOES, Clarks, unworn, size 7½, narrow. Price £4/4/-. Flannel coat. dresses, fit 32, 26, 36. Perfect condition. From 5 gns.—Write, Box 360.

LADIES' new 18 ct. Gold Wristwatch; multi-jewel; rectangular shape; Curvex shockproof front; superior, perfect; bracelet strap; £35 Modern 8-day Travelling Clock; luminous, jewelled; shockproof; leather folding case; superior, perfect; £12. New Writing Attache Case, £10. Gent's new 18 ct. Gold Chronograph Wrist Stopwatch; split second timekeeper; ultra modern (cost 125 gns.); superior; guaranteed; £65. New Eversharp 14 ct. Gold Model Streamline Fountain Pen, £10.—B. THOMAS, 3, Connaught Close, London, W.2.

LADY has for disposal large Canadian (Lake Superior) Mink Coat. Offers over £1,000 entertained. Manchester.—Box 272.

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MEES' CHILDREN'S ENCYCLOPÆDIA, 8 volumes, clean and excellent condition, best offer over £12.—Box 358.

NO COUPONS. Gentleman's dark grey Hunting Coat, perfect condition; chest 40 in., length 43 in.; offers over £10. Lady's black (Maxwell) Hunting Boots, size 3, good condition; offers over £5. Lady's Tartan Kilt, Robertson, length 26 in.; offers over £5.—THE SECRETARY, Ruckley Estate Office, Shifnal, Salop.

OLD SPORTING PAINTINGS AND PRINTS, also "Mint State" specimens, "Baxter," and "Le Blond Oval" prints for disposal. Special subjects located free of charge.—J. W. MORLEY ANSELL, Picture Restorer, Print Seller, and Dealer in Works of Art, 29, Cold Bath Road, Harrogate.

TWO PAIRS OF CROSS-FRAMED ITALIAN DINING CHAIRS, carved arms and embossed leather seats and backs, very unusual and in excellent preservation: offers invited. Double barrel, 12-bore hammerless Shotgun, 28½ in.; choked barrels with 220 cartridges, 5 and 6 shot; £25 or offer.—Apply: B. G. MARCH, 27, Grayshott Road, Southsea. Portsmouth 82671.

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AT DEAN COURT HOTEL, 124, Queen's Gate, S.W.7, it is often possible to book a room at short notice: very comfortable beds (h. and c. and gas fires in all rooms). Room and breakfast from 15/- per night. KEN 5277 and 8.

CAER-BERIS, BUILTH WELLS, BRECONSHIRE. A black and white country house hotel above and almost encircled by the River Irfon (a feeder of the Wye) with the gardens sloping down to the water's edge. Central heating; log fires; home produce; club licence; salmon and trout fishing; shooting; golf; swimming; billiards. Picnic lunches and breakfast in bed inclusive.—Apply, SECRETARY. Tel. 213.

CROWBOROUGH. THE BEACON HOTEL
Telephone 496. 100 Bedrooms.
In the Sussex Highlands around Ashdown Forest, 800 feet above sea level. Standing in 8 acres of lovely grounds. First-class Golf, Tennis, and Riding. Every comfort and modern amenity. Cocktail Bar.
Under same management:
CADOGAN HOTEL, LONDON, S.W.1

CROWBOROUGH. SUSSEX
CREST HOTEL
"A wee bit of Scotland in Sussex." Under the personal direction of Mrs. Eglinton Adams. A fully equipped first-class Hotel with nearby golf and riding. Cocktail lounge. All-weather tennis court. Lift.

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EAST MULLION HOTEL,
Lascelles Terrace.
This small luxury hotel (extremely well furnished and equipped) offers comfort, warmth, and first-class cooking to some 25 discerning people. One minute from the front. Tel. 2492.

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LILLEY BROOK HOTEL CHELTENHAM
A.A.**** Overlooking Cotswolds. 150 acres of grounds. Golf, riding, billiards, American bar. Res. Director: THE HON. CHARLES FITZROY. Phone: 5861

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6-10, York Street, Baker Street, W.1.
50 bright rooms with modern furniture.
So quiet, yet so central. Welbeck 9271.
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Near Harrods and Park. Western 4322.
These are just the Hotels to appeal to the readers of *Country Life*. Running water. Telephone and gas fires in all the comfortable bedrooms. Lifts, night porters and understanding management. Terms 5 and 6 gns. *en pension*. Produce from own Wilts farm. Catering as attractive as possible.

"MONKSMEAD," WEST RUNTON, near Cromer. Modern Guest House, 2½ acres secluded grounds. Excellent cuisine. Every comfort. Near golf course.

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KNOWLE LINKS HOTEL
(adjoining Golf Club House and overlooking FISTRAL Bay). 60 bedrooms. Bridge, dancing and games. Special winter terms. Phone: Newquay 2345.

PAYING GUESTS received gentleman's country residence. First-class accommodation. No rationing.—Apply: BELL, Philipstown House, Dundalk, Eire.

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Overlooking river, fully licensed. H. & c. all bedrooms.

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A Country House Hotel, every comfort and a cheerful atmosphere. Dancing. Own Riding Stables. Hunting twice weekly with East Sussex. Good Hacking. Rough shooting over 250-acre farm. Trains met Bexhill or Battle. Terms from 5½ gns.

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DINING ROOM SUITE in walnut or pickled pine and small drawing or sitting room suite required (if possible in needlework tapestry). Also fitted wardrobe cupboards required for bed or dressing room. Nest tables (two) required, walnut or pickled pine. Please give sizes. Seen within 50 miles London.—Please write Box 362.

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IMPORTED DUTCH BULBS. Hyacinths, Tulips, Daffodils, Iris, Gladoli. All bulbs of excellent quality. Please state quantity desired for delivery in the autumn so that arrangements can be made as soon as permission for import is given.—MAYFLOWER GARDENS, LTD., 54, Fulham High Street, London, S.W.6.

PEAT MOSS for Garden, Poultry, Horses. Approximately 2 cwt., 35/-; 6 cwt. for 100/-, delivered.—CAPT. H. F. BATTERSBY, Dormers Farm, Hurstmonceux.

OTHER PROPERTY AND AUCTIONS
ADVERTISING PAGE 54

COUNTRY LIFE

Vol. C. No. 2582 JULY 12, 1946

# KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY

*By direction of the Rt. Hon. Viscount Bearsted, M.C.*

## IN THE WARWICKSHIRE HUNT

**8 miles from Banbury on the road to Stratford-on-Avon.**

## SUN RISING HOUSE, EDGE HILL, 142 ACRES

**AN ATTRACTIVE RESIDENTIAL AND HUNTING PROPERTY AND HOME FARM**

**700 FEET UP and commanding a magnificent view.**

Stone-built house of character—fully modernised. 4 reception, 18 bed and dressing rooms, 6 bathrooms. Electric light. Central heating. Moderate sized grounds with well-kept kitchen garden.

**HUNTER STABLING for about 15 with groom's quarters.**

**2 MODERN COTTAGES**

Range of farm buildings and productive farm lands lying in a ring fence.

**VACANT POSSESSION OF THE WHOLE. For Sale by Auction at an early date (unless previously sold).**

Solicitors: Messrs. WALTONS & CO., 101, Leadenhall Street, E.C.3.

Auctioneers: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, 20, Hanover Square, W.1. Particulars price 1/-. each.

## IN THE CENTRE OF THE COTTESMORE COUNTRY

**Between Melton Mowbray and Oakham, Leicestershire.**

**A XVIIth-CENTURY MANOR HOUSE OF INDEFINABLE CHARM AND CHARACTER**

Hall, 4 reception rooms, ballroom or music room, 9 principal bedrooms, 7 bathrooms, nursery suite, 4 servants' bedrooms, skilfully planned domestic offices. Central heating. Estate electricity and water. Modern drainage.

**Stabling for 20, riding school. Garages for 8.**

**Squash and hard tennis courts.**

**2 gate houses.**

**6 COTTAGES**

**HOME FARM**

**Suitable for Stud Farm or Pedigree Cattle.**

**Total area 312 ACRES**

**The early XVIIth-century oak staircase and richly panelled walls, the remarkably beautiful plaster ceilings and carved chimnepieces here combine with the comfortable enjoyment of luxuriously appointed bathrooms and domestic offices to create an ENGLISH COUNTRY HOME which does not contain one cheerless room or dark corridor.**

**Vacant Possession of the House, 5 Cottages and 189 Acres.**

**PRICE £35,000 FREEHOLD**

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*By direction of Mrs. Wills Goldingham.*

## COTSWOLD HILLS. MAGNIFICENT POSITION 750 FEET UP

**4 miles from Cheltenham. 7 miles from Gloucester. 93 miles from London.**

**The Freehold, Residential, Agricultural and Sporting**

## ULLENWOOD ESTATE, 587 ACRES

The stone-built Residence has mullioned windows, faces south, and is approached by a drive with entrance lodge. 2 halls, 4 reception, 7 principal and 7 secondary bedrooms, 4 bathrooms. Modern offices with "Aga." Main electricity, central heating. Spring water supply.

**Garage. Stabling. Timbered grounds.**

A lake of over ¼ acre. HOME FARM with excellent house. Small holding. Cottage. Accommodation holdings. Mainly with

**VACANT POSSESSION**

**For SALE by AUCTION as a whole or in lots at the Town Hall, Cheltenham, on July 19 at 2.30 p.m. (unless previously sold).**

Solicitors: Messrs. ECKERSALL, WATTERSON & MOORE, 3, Regent Street, Cheltenham.

Auctioneers: Messrs. CHAS. C. CASTLE & SON, Cheltenham, and Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, 20, Hanover Square, W.1. Pars. 2/6 each.

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**In all about 15 ACRES PRICE FREEHOLD £17,500**

Possession by arrangement

Additional cottage and woodland in all 48 ACRES available

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## WEDNESDAY, JULY 24, at 3 p m
## WEST COTTAGE, EAST DEAN

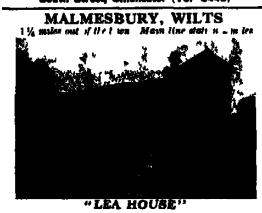
*Near Chichester Goodwood country*

Attractive cottage residence 3 reception cloakroom 5 bedrooms bathroom kitchen etc Telephone Main electricity Modern drainage Gardens ½ ACRE

**Auctioneers JACKSON STOPS & STAFF, 37, South Street, Chichester (Tel 3443)**

## MALMESBURY, WILTS

*1¼ miles out of town Main line station*



### "LEA HOUSE"

A soundly built country house 9 bed and dressing rooms 3 bathrooms 3 reception rooms Central heating Garage stabling cow ties Cottage Tennis court Garden Paddocks 19 ACRES Fishing rights in River Avon for 2½ miles For sale by auction (unless sold privately) on Wednesday July 31 1946 at 12 o clock at The Town Hall Malmesbury

**Joint Auctioneers JACKSON STOPS, Old Council Chambers, Cirencester (Tel 334/5), FIELDEN, JONES & TAYLOR, Malmesbury (Tel 3182), Solicitors PLANDATE & CO, 70, Pall Mall, London, S W 1 (Tel Whitehall 7401)**

## CHURCHILL COURT, SOMERSET

*5 miles from Chedder 14 miles from Bristol Close to the Mendip Hills Trout fishing at Blagdon 1 mile on the outskirts of an unspoilt village DATING FROM 1527 A D*

A charming old house of great antiquity and interest giving 9 bedrooms 2 bathrooms 4 reception rooms Out buildings Low ties Gardens Orchards Paddocks **16½ ACRES** Co s water electric light and power Central heating

FOR SALE BY AUCTION (unless sold privately mean while) ON THURSDAY September 12 1946 at 2 p m at THE GRAND HOTEL, BRISTOL

**Auctioneers JACKSON STOPS, Castle Street, Cirencester (Tel 334/5) and WILLIAM COWLIN & SON, LTD, 29, Princess Victoria Street, Clifton, Bristol 8 (Tel 32044). Solicitors CHECKER WARD VASSALL ABBOT & CO, 41, Broad Street, Bristol 1 (Tel 20452)**

## WEST SUSSEX

Between Petworth and Horsham, the delightful small Tudor residence completely modernised

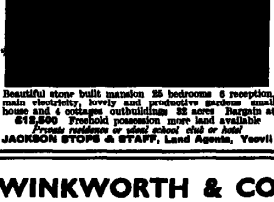
### FIDDLERS COPSE, PLAISTOW

Lounge 4 reception rooms 4 bedrooms bathroom kitchen etc Telephone main water and electricity Garage Pleasant gardens orchard and paddock with shedding

In all about 2¼ ACRES

**To be Sold by Auction (unless previously sold privately) on Wednesday, July 31, 1946, at 3 p.m., at the Black Horse Hotel, Horsham, by JACKSON STOPS & STAFF, 37, South Street, Chichester, and at 8, Hanover Street London, W 1 Northampton Leeds, Yeovil and Cirencester**

## DORSET, Near SHAFTESBURY



Beautiful stone built mansion 25 bedrooms 6 reception, main electricity lovely and productive gardens small house and 4 cottages outbuildings 32 acres Bargain at £12,500 Freehold possession more land available

*Private residence or ideal school club or hotel*

**JACKSON STOPS & STAFF, Land Agents, Yeovil**

*By direction of John P Papillon Esq*

## SUSSEX—Between Battle & Bexhill

The well situate and attractive residential estate of

### CATSFIELD PLACE

consisting of the historic small early XVII-century residence Lounge hall, 3 reception rooms cloakroom loggia Seven principal bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 4 attic bedrooms main electric light and water Central heating Outbuildings and stabling Two modern cottages Lovely garden Pasturland

In all about 24 ACRES

### CATSFIELD PLACE FARM

with modern farmhouse containing two reception rooms, office 5 bedrooms bathroom main electric light and water Central heating Good farmbuildings Two cottages and about 266 ACRES

will be offered for Sale by Auction (unless previously sold privately) as a whole or in two lots at the Devonshire Hotel Bexhill-on Sea, on Thursday August 22 1946 at 2 30 p m Illustrated particulars plans and conditions of sale (price 1/-) from the **Auctioneers JACKSON STOPS & STAFF, 8, Hanover Street, London, W 1 (Tel Mayfair 3216/7) and at Northampton, Leeds, Cirencester, Yeovil and Chichester Solicitors RAPER & FOVARGUE, Battle (Tel 400 401) and at Eastbourne and Hailsham**

## WILTSHIRE In V W H Hunt

Well modernised Georgian residence known as

### "PURTON STOKE HOUSE," Nr Purton

10 bed and dressing rooms 4 bathrooms 4 reception rooms billiards room Main water and electricity Central heating 2 garages Stabling for 4 Flat Cottage DELIGHTFUL GARDEN Small orchard and paddock

2½ ACRES

**For Sale by Auction, July 31, 1946, at the Old Council Chambers, Cirencester, at 3 p m (unless sold privately) Joint Auctioneers JACKSON STOPS, Cirencester (Tel 334), R J TUCKETT & SON, Tetbury (Tel 6)**

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*On rock soil high up with fine views*

### A VERY BEAUTIFUL PERIOD RESIDENCE

Modernised and in excellent order 8 best bed and dressing rooms 4 bath rooms staff bedrooms 4 delightful reception rooms Main electricity Central heating

*Oak floors and panelling Stabling Garage 2 Cottages Farmery*

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With chain of lakes providing Trout Fishing

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containing hall, 5 reception rooms, 7 principal bedrooms, 7 secondary bedrooms, 4 bathrooms.

Central heating. Main electricity, power and drainage.

Garages and Stabling.

Walled garden and glasshouse.

" Entrance Lodge
2 COTTAGES

**THE GREEN FARM**

A first-class Dairy Farm of 200 acres.

With an attractive house, a cottage and ample farm buildings. Let at £250 per annum.

**ACCOMMODATION LANDS**

Vacant Possession of the Residence

For SALE by AUCTION as a whole or in 3 lots at the Town Hall, Cheltenham, on July 19, at 2.30 p.m.
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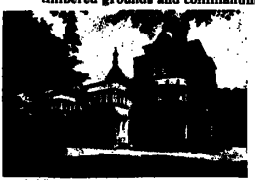
Solicitors: Messrs. J. H. MILNER & SON, Osvaldstre House, 34, Norfolk Street, Strand, W.C.2.
Auctioneers: Messrs. CHAS. C. CASTLE & SON, 2, Regent Street, Cheltenham, and Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, 20, Hanover Square, W.1. Particulars, 2/6.

## NEAR WALTON HEATH

**1 mile from Station. 17 miles from London.**

**Extremely well-appointed House standing 500 feet up in well-timbered grounds and commanding beautiful views**



Lounge hall, 3 reception rooms, music room, 10 bed and dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms, complete offices. Main water, electricity and gas.

**3 modern cottages.**
**Garage. Outbuildings.**

Delightful gardens and grounds. Tennis and other lawns, rock garden, productive kitchen garden, and an area of woodland

**ABOUT 4½ ACRES.**

**FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION**

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*By direction of D. MacKenzie Watkins, Esq.*

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**The Freehold Residence and Agricultural Properties.**
**BAYKERS and SOUTHEY GREEN FARM, Sible Hedingham**

**Including two Tudor Residences containing a wealth of old oak, and fully modernised.**

**Excellent Buildings** for a T.T. Attested herd, and two other sets of buildings.

A modern bungalow and 2 cottages. Vinery, garages, and a swimming pool.

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**FREEHOLD LATE-GEORGIAN RESIDENCE**
(for many years the home of the late Mr. Cecil Aldin)

Drawing room, dining room, billiards room, usual domestic offices with staff sitting room, 5 principal and 3 secondary bedrooms, bathroom. Well-timbered grounds with many rare and matured trees. Also PADDOCK, in all 3 ACRES. Main water, modern drainage. Gas. Main electricity available. Outbuildings including stabling for 7.

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(unless an acceptable offer is received meanwhile).

Particulars from MESSRS. NICHOLAS, Reading.

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*In a quiet situation facing south on the edge of a private estate overlooking beautiful well-wooded country. Henley 9 miles, Reading 9 miles, Oxford 18 miles, Huntercombe Golf Course 3 miles.*

**The Medium-Sized Country House known as**

**WHEELER'S FARM, CHECKENDON**

(part 250 years old and completely modernised)

Accommodation: Hall with cloakroom, 3 reception rooms (all facing south), and a fine modern studio. Usual domestic offices. Four principal bedrooms (all with basins), bathroom, 2 good attic bedrooms.

**CHARMING OLD-WORLD GARDEN OF ABOUT 1 ACRE**

Main water. Electric light from own plant. Main electricity available shortly. Modern drainage. Radiators. Garage.

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The attractive Freehold Residential and Agricultural Property
**SILCHESTER HALL, SILCHESTER**
**WITH 9 OR 116 ACRES**

Over 300 ft. above sea level, sunny aspects, panoramic views, near open common. LOT 1 (with vacant possession). Accommodation: Lounge hall, 4 reception rooms, 11 bedrooms, dressing room, 2 bathrooms. Ample offices including maids' sitting room. Main electricity and power. Partial central heating. Abundant water supply (main available). Independent hot water. Stabling and garages with rooms over. 2 cottages.

WELL TIMBERED GARDENS AND GROUNDS, Paddock, kitchen garden, etc., of about 9¼ ACRES

LOT 2 (let). Comprising DICKERS FARM, with fine old red brick farmhouse, stabling, cowhouse, etc., and land extending to about 107 ACRES (17 acres woodlands).

For Sale by Auction as a whole or in 3 Lots by the Joint Auctioneers: Messrs. NICHOLAS and Messrs. JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, at the Masonic Hall, Greyfriars Street, Reading, on Tuesday, September 24, 1946, at 3 p.m. (unless previously sold).

Illustrated particulars with plan may be had on application to the Solicitors: Messrs. RAVENSCROFT-RAMSON, BYE & Co., 3, New Square, Lincoln Inn, W.C.2; and the Auctioneers: Messrs. NICHOLAS, Station Road, Reading, and 4, Albany Courtyard, Piccadilly, W.1; Messrs. JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, 44, St. James's Place, London, S.W.1.

## A PROPERTY OF OUTSTANDING ARCHITECTURAL MERIT AND CHARM

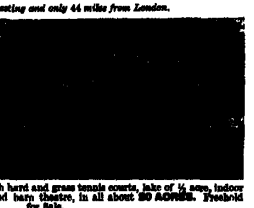
*Historically interesting and only 44 miles from London.*

**THIS LOVELY XVIIth CENTURY HOUSE**

has been sympathetically enlarged and restored.

Magnificent lounge hall 45 ft. x 14 ft., 4 fine reception rooms (2 about 40 ft. x 14 ft. 6 in. and 50 ft. x 19 ft.), 10 bedrooms, 9 bathdressing and bathrooms. Adequate offices.

Company's water. Electric light. Complete central heating. Garages, stabling. 2 flats and lodge.



Beautifully timbered gardens with hard and grass tennis courts, lake of ½ acre, indoor swimming pool, squash court and barn theatre, in all about 80 ACRES. Freehold for Sale.

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**Surf Bathing. 10 minutes of Golf Links.**

6 bedrooms, bathroom. Lounge hall, 2 reception rooms, sun loggia. Cloakroom. Domestic offices and ground floor domestic suite of sitting room and 2 bedrooms. 2 double garages. Main electricity. Central heating.

**2½ ACRES**

**FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION**

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## HAYLING ISLAND, HANTS.

**FOR SALE, FREEHOLD, UNIQUE PROPERTY IN BEST RESIDENTIAL PART**

Few minutes walk Station and sea. Twenty minutes (by ferry) to Portsmouth and little more by car. Offering perfect seclusion and commanding extensive and uninterrupted Marine view.

EXCEPTIONALLY EASY TO RUN. The Residence, built in 1935 to design of well-known architect and approached by a long drive, contains entrance hall, fine Lounge and 3 other reception rooms. 6/7 Bedrooms, all with fitted H. & C. basins, dressing room, 2 bathrooms, excellent domestic offices, etc.; 2 staircases. All modern conveniences. Companies' electric light and water. Telephone. Central heating throughout. Main drainage. 2 garages. The beautifully laid out gardens are a feature and comprise hard tennis court (Gaze), rose gardens, lawns, rose pergola, large rock garden, etc, and terrace to foreshore with boat house, in all nearly 2 acres.

**A PROPERTY WHICH SHOULD BE SEEN TO BE APPRECIATED**

*Inspected and recommended by the Sole Agents, HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. Regent 8222.*

## WITHIN 12 MILES FROM LONDON

**DELIGHTFUL HALF-TIMBERED EARLY 16th-CENTURY RESIDENCE**

and with about 2 acres of charming secluded gardens.

**FOR SALE FREEHOLD**

Unique and most interesting residence finely preserved and modernised and in excellent order throughout; containing many pleasing features, such as original old open fireplaces, wealth of old oak beams, etc. Lounge hall, 3 reception, 8 bedrooms, 3 excellent bathrooms, etc. Fine old barn with cocktail bar. Central heating and all company's services. Garage for 2/3 cars. Of special appeal to lovers of the old world who wish to be within easy reach of the City and West End.

*Inspected and recommended by HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. Regent 8222.* M.45,516

**BRANCH OFFICES: WIMBLEDON COMMON, S.W.19 (WIM. 0081). BISHOP'S STORTFORD (243)**

# CLASSIFIED PROPERTIES

*2/- per line (Min. 3 lines) Box fee 1/6.*

## AUCTIONS

**BETWEEN ASHDOWN FOREST AND THE COAST**

Ideal for Country Hotel, School, or Institution.

**ST. MARY'S, HORAM, EAST SUSSEX**

An attractive small Residential and Agricultural Estate with an imposing Residence of character, beautifully situated on high ground. Close to 2 stations and adjacent to good bus routes. Lounge hall, 4 reception, billiards room, suite of 4 offices, cloakroom, 17 bed and dressing rooms, 4 nursery rooms, 5 bathrooms, modern domestic offices with 2 Esse cookers. Servants' hall. Central heating throughout. Main electric light, water and gas. Three garages. Small chapel. Gymnasium, 2 "Mayorete" huts, laundry house and other outbuildings. Old oast house. Home farm with bailiff's house. Lodge. Delightful pleasure grounds and wooded parkland intersected by a stream. Two tennis courts.

61 ACRES

Vacant possession, except Home Farm and Lodge.

AUCTION on July 30, 1946, as a whole or in Lots (unless previously sold).

Illustrated particulars from the Auctioneers, **Rowland Gorringe & Co., F.A.I.,** Lewes ('Phone 660/2) and at Uckfield ('Phone 32).

**BRANTHAM COURT ESTATE, SUFFOLK**

*8 miles Ipswich.*

Well-appointed Residence of distinction. Oak panelled lounge hall, 3 fine reception rooms, 11 bedrooms, 2 bath., garages, stabling, 2 cottages and parkland and woodland. With possession. Also two Farms, let off, 350 acres in all.

By AUCTION as a whole or in four Lots, July 23, 1946, by **Daniel Smith, Oakley & Garrard,** 32, St. James's Street, London, S.W.1, and **Fenn, Wright & Co.,** 146, High Street, Colchester.

Vendors' Solicitors: Messrs. Vizard, Oldham, Crowder & Cash, 51, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, W.C.2.

## WANTED

**ANYWHERE** from the North of Scotland to the South of England. House wanted, 6 to 12 bedrooms, modern conveniences. Land 50 to 300 acres essential. Gentleman's pleasure farmery of no interest.—Box 348, HARRODS' ADVERTISING AGENCY, S.W.1.

**NORTH DEVON.** Wanted, Farm 30-80 acres, good fattening land, well watered; cottage style residence 2-3 recept., 4-5 bedrooms, large kitchen, bathroom, etc. Replies confidential.—Box 344.

## WANTED

**S. OR S.W. LONDON ONLY,** 40-100 miles radius preferred. Advertiser desires contact owner who would incidentally save agents' fees. Requirements: Period House, Queen Anne, Georgian, or good copy; good garden; in or near village; main services, 7-10 bedrooms, 3-4 reception; good gardener's cottage essential.—Box 343.

**SOUTH-WEST.** W. J. TOLLEY & HILL (est. 1902), Auctioneers and Estate Agents, 58, Baldwin Street, Bristol, urgently require Country Houses, Farms, Agricultural and Residential Estates for applicants. Owners desirous of Letting/Selling are invited to communicate. Tel.: Bristol 20562.

**WEST HIGHLANDS OR ISLANDS.** Wanted to purchase, House; 4 to 6 bedrooms.—Reply, Box 345.

## EXCHANGE

**LONDON.** Exchange large West End Flat, 2 minutes Regent's Park, for Country Cottage or Garden Flat easy reach West End —Write, Box No. C.A.89, 4-7, Salisbury Court, Fleet Street, E.C.4.

## FOR SALE

**A S. CORNISH PERIOD RESIDENCE.** A splendidly built Georgian Residence standing in over 10 acres with approach drive, gardens, grounds, including walled garden, woodland and stream with numerous waterfalls and cascades, on outskirts S. Cornish sea-coast town. Four attractive reception, 10 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, lavatories, ample and spacious domestic offices. Freehold. Price £8,500.—Apply Sole Agents: STOCKTON AND PLUMSTEAD, Mawnan Smith, Falmouth. Ref. 2500.

**BOOKHAM, SURREY.** Well-appointed Residence with 5 acres of valuable land, close to station. Seven bedrooms, bathroom, 3 reception rooms, tennis court, garage, stabling, etc. Price £10,500. Freehold, including extensive equipment.—Box 342.

**DEVON.** A Residence famed in the district for its character and charm. Standing in delightfully secluded grounds. Ten beds. (basins), 3 baths., 3 rec. Central heating. Crazy paved terrace. Rose gardens. Orchard, etc. Wonderful opportunity. £10,000. Possession.—E. HAYES, Johnson's Place, Exmouth.

**JERSEY.** Attractive double-fronted Residence, 2 reception rooms, study all panelled, 4 bedrooms (h. and c.), bathroom, w.c., central heating, main water, gas, electricity, telephone. Large garage. Good garden. For Sale with Possession (including furniture if required).—JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, 7, Newhall Street, Birmingham 3. Colmore 4050.

## FOR SALE

**GLOS.** In a village 8 miles north of Bristol. Character House with lounge, 4 reception, 8 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, etc. Company's electricity. Central heating. Delightfully matured gardens of over 2 acres with well-stocked fruit garden. Good cottage, garage and stabling. For sale with early vacant possession.—Sole Agents: JOLLY & SON LTD., 10, Milsom Street, Bath.

**MIDDLESEX.** A Happy Home for a couple wishing to raise a family in ideal surroundings. We found this at Shepperton 20 years ago on a secluded backwater off the Thames, within an hour of London. Ideally built for a couple with 2-3 children. Every modern improvement. Seven bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, lovely lounge, dining-room, etc., modernised kitchen, central heating, infallible hot water, gas, electricity, main drainage, etc., etc. Lovely garden with lawn to creek, boathouse and motor-boat anchorage. Owners leaving for abroad. Vacant possession September 30, possibly earlier. Price £10,750 for quick sale.—Phone Walton-on-Thames 364, or write Creek House, Shepperton, Middlesex.

**NEWTOWN GRANGE,** Newbury (3 miles) Fine Residential Property of 27 acres for Sale by Auction during July. Eleven bed., 3 bath, 3 reception and music room. Garages and stabling. Three cottages. Main electricity and central heating. VACANT POSSESSION.—A. W. NEATE & SONS, Estate Agents, Newbury.

**OXFORD** 9 miles, 4 miles from market town of Thame. Modern Farmhouse, situated on elevation commanding lovely country, 200 yds. from main road, mile from G.W.R. Station. Two living rooms, 3 bedrooms, 1 dressing room, 1 bathroom, kitchen, scullery. Central heating and electric light. 91 acres (20 arable), modern cowhouse for 40 cows, dairy and sterilising plant; 10 good loose boxes and other excellent buildings and yards.—Apply, BURROWS & BRADFIELD, Thame, Oxon.

**SURREY.** Compact Estate of 40 acres comprising delightful gardens, large kitchen garden, and 19 acres agricultural land. The House is of ultra modern design, unique both in design and construction, and would be sold complete with all furniture. Two cottages and ample outbuildings. Price (to include furniture) £30,000.—For full particulars and to view, apply ROSS & CO., 18, Blagrave Street, Reading 5088/9.

**SURREY-SUSSEX BORDERS.** Pretty old-world Residence. Four bed., bath., 3 rec. Excellent kennels and stabling 35 acres. Only wants seeing. £8,500 Freehold.—POWELL & PARTNER, LTD., Forest Row (Tel. 304).

## TO LET

**BETWEEN HUNGERFORD AND MARLBOROUGH.** To be Let Unfurnished, an attractive Manor House containing entrance and gallery halls, 3 reception rooms, good domestic quarters, 5 principal bedrooms, 4 staff, 3 bathrooms. Main electricity. Attractive grounds with tennis and squash courts. Farmery attached with ample buildings, 3 cottages and 91 acres. Rent £300 p.a. Premium required.—Full particulars from DREWEATT, WATSON & BARTON, Estate Agents, Newbury.

**NEAR BARNSTAPLE, N. DEVON.** Magnificent view of hills and moors, 700 ft. above sea level amidst beautiful surroundings, to Let Furnished, as from July 22, charming old Residence (partly Georgian) containing 3 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, 2 dressing rooms, convenient domestic offices, bathroom, telephone, and grounds of 1½ acres, with ample outbuildings, orchard and gardens, good stabling and garage. Near Exmoor, and excellent shooting, fishing and hunting. One mile from station, 6 miles from Barnstaple.—To view (by ticket) apply to Messrs. SMYTH-RICHARDS, Estate Agents, 3, Castle Street Barnstaple.

**NORTHERN IRELAND.** Very comfortable small Country House near Omagh, Co. Tyrone, to be Let Furnished from June 19. Three rec., 7 bed. (including nurseries), main electricity and water. Excellent kitchen garden and paddock. Farm and 35 acres available later if required. Salmon and trout fishing available nearby. Rent £25 monthly.—Full particulars from R. H. McCOY, Solicitor, Courthouse, Omagh.

**NORTHUMBERLAND.** Lorbottle [illegible] a Georgian Residence standi[illegible] pleasant grounds overlooking attracti[illegible] country, 12 miles west of Alnwick. Containing entrance hall, 4 reception rooms, 7 principal bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 6 [illegible]d men's rooms, usual offices and c[illegible]. Electric light, h. and c. water, cen[illegible]. Garages, stabling, byres, etc. Lodge [illegible] cottage for employees. Shooting over approximately 1,500 acres. Hunting. Land available if required. To Let on lease from May 12, 1946.—Full particulars from AGENT, Estates Office, Callaly, Whittingham, Alnwick, Northumberland.

**S. WILTS AND DORSET BORDERS.** To Let for one year, modernised well-furnished Thatched Cottage, consisting 2 reception, 2 double and 2 single bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, kitchen, Esse cooker. Main electric, and drainage. Central heating. Outbuildings, stabling, orchard, productive and pleasure garden. Rent 5 gns. weekly.—Box 341.

Regent 4304

# OSBORN & MERCER

MEMBERS OF THE CHARTERED SURVEYORS' AND AUCTIONEERS' INSTITUTE

28b, ALBEMARLE ST., PICCADILLY, W.1

## CUMBERLAND

*IN THE BEAUTIFUL WAST WATER AREA OF THE LAKE DISTRICT.*

**THE REMAINING PORTIONS OF THE IRTON HALL ESTATE**

comprising:—

THREE CAPITAL FARMS.
SMALL COUNTRY RESIDENCE.
SEVERAL COTTAGES.
EXTENSIVE WOODLAND
AND ACCOMMODATION LAND.

About 2½ miles of Salmon and Trout Fishing in the River Irt

The whole extending to about

**926 ACRES**

For Sale by Auction in 21 Lots at

THE PARISH HALL, DRIGG

on TUESDAY, 30 JULY, 1946 at 2.30 p.m.

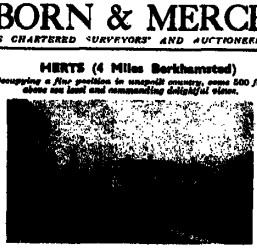
(unless previously sold by Private Treaty).

Solicitors: MESSRS. ERNEST G. SCOTT & CO., 31-2, Broad Street Avenue, Blomfield Street, E.C.2.

Auctioneers: MESSRS. OSBORN & MERCER, 28b, Albemarle Street, London, W.1.

## HERTS (4 Miles Berkhamsted)

*Occupying a fine position in unspoilt country, some 500 feet above sea level and commanding delightful views.*



A PICTURESQUE MODERN RESIDENCE

Approached by a Drive with Entrance Lodge.

3-4 reception rooms, 10 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms.

Electric light. Company's water and gas.

Two Cottages, Garage, Numerous Outbuildings.

The grounds are matured and inexpensive to maintain; they include lawns with room for two tennis courts, gardens and playroom, flower beds and borders, kitchen garden, orchard, etc., in all **ABOUT 2 ACRES.**

PRICE FREEHOLD £8,500. VACANT POSSESSION

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (17,679)

## A Lovely Old Tudor House in Glos

*Occupying a fine position adjoining a golf course and National Trust land, commanding magnificent views.*

*COMPLETELY RESTORED AND NOW IN FIRST-CLASS ORDER.*

2 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms.

Electric light, excellent water supply (mains available). Central heating.

Fine Old Barn. Garage. Outbuildings.

*Delightful pleasure gardens, grass terraces, ponds, vegetable garden, orchards, woodland and pasture,* in all

**ABOUT 30 ACRES**

*FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH POSSESSION.*

Inspected and recommended by OSBORN & MERCER, as above.

## GUILDFORD

*Situate in a quiet position about 300 ft. above sea level, near to an old village.*

*A Delightful XVIth Century Farmhouse*

*with a wealth of old oak and in first-rate order*

Lounge hall, 2 reception rooms, 7 bed and dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms.

Co.'s electricity, gas and water. Garage for 2 cars.

The charming old gardens have been well maintained, and there are lawns, flower and kitchen gardens, orchard, etc., in all **ABOUT 1¼ ACRES**

*FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH EARLY POSSESSION*

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (17,707)

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22, MOUNT ST., GROSVENOR SQ., LONDON, W.1

# WILSON & CO.

Grosvenor 1441

## DORSET

*4 miles from Blandford. Easy reach of Salisbury. Important Freehold Residential and Agricultural Estate.*

**Hanford House**
**Blandford**

Original Jacobean house,

set within old-world gardens and well-timbered park. Many panelled room and period features. 10 best bedrooms, staff rooms 8 modern bathrooms, fine hall, 3 reception. Garages, stabling. Home farm (at present let) with good house and farm buildings. Several cottages. Valuable woodlands, about **750 ACRES**

For Sale Privately or by Auction in Lots in September. (The house would be sold with a small area.)

Sole Agents and Auctioneers: WILSON & CO., 23, Mount Street, W.1.

## BEAUTIFUL OLD 14TH CENTURY HOUSE OF HISTORIC INTEREST

*In lovely part of Sussex. About an hour from London.*

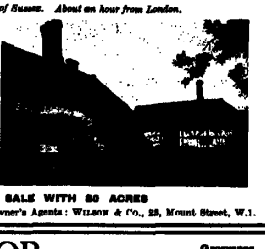
In first-rate order and beautifully appointed. South aspect.

9 bed and dressing rooms, 4 bathrooms, oak panelled hall, 3 reception rooms. Excellent domestic offices with servants' hall.

Fine music or dance room, 45 x 25, with musicians' gallery.

Central heating, main water, electric light, h. & c. in all principal bedrooms.

3 cottages and excellent outbuildings.



**FOR SALE WITH 80 ACRES**

Photographs and plan with owner's Agents: WILSON & CO., 23, Mount Street, W.1.

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3, MOUNT ST., LONDON, W.1

# RALPH PAY & TAYLOR

Grosvenor 1525-33

## ST. JOHN'S WOOD, N.W.8.

*A perfect house all ready to step into.*

Unique modern residence. Beautifully appointed and labour saving in every detail. 6 bed, 3 well-fitted bedrooms, 3 delightful reception rooms opening on to garden. Complete offices. Central heating. Independent hot-water supply. Large garage. Attractive garden. Trust lease of about 50 years. Ground rent £75 per annum.

PRICE £35,000

For particulars of Sole Agents: RALPH PAY & TAYLOR, as above.

## TWO MILES SUSSEX COAST

*300 ft. up on a southern slope with views to the sea.*

Distinctive House of character in the Georgian style, in first-class order with comfort and artistic charm. 6 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, large reception rooms, compact offices. All main services. Central heating. 2 garages. Matured gardens and grounds. In all about 7 ACRES FREEHOLD £10,500

RALPH PAY & TAYLOR, as above.

---

164, BROMPTON ROAD, LONDON, S.W.3

# BENTALL, HORSLEY & BALDRY

Kensington 0182-3

## GENTLEMAN'S RESIDENTIAL FARM. 30 ACRES

*12 miles Gloucester. 8 miles Stow-on-Wye.*

All rich feeding pasture. Bounded by stream. Lovely position.

**CHARMING RESIDENCE**

3 reception, 8 bed, bath. Electric light, etc. Farm buildings. Very low outgoings.

POSSESSION.

FREEHOLD £8,000

BENTALL, HORSLEY & BALDRY, as above.

## CHICHESTER, SUSSEX

*2 miles Goodwood Race Course, 9 miles Bognor.*

*Yachting centre at Bosham and Itchenor.*

**WELL-BUILT RESIDENCE**

Long drive approach. Lounge hall, 3 reception, 8 bed, 3 baths. Main electric, water and gas. Garage. Cottage.

**11 ACRES**

VACANT POSSESSION

FREEHOLD ONLY £7,500

Sole Agents: BENTALL, HORSLEY AND BALDRY, as above.

## IN LOVELY SMALL PARK NORFOLK

*80 miles London adjoining quaint old town.*

Dignified and somewhat historical Residence of great character, approached by short avenue. 4 rec., 8 or 10 bed., 3 bathrooms. Main electricity and water. Central heating. Fine old garden and beautifully timbered park.

**16 ACRES**

FREEHOLD ONLY £7,500

or might be sold with gardens only, about 3 Acres.

Immediate possession.

BENTALL, HORSLEY & BALDRY, 164, Brompton Road, S.W.3. (Tel.: Ken. 0182)

## AT ALL TIMES

It is difficult to obtain properties in Berkshire, and especially the smaller type of country residence, but we can offer just that characteristic PROPERTY so much in demand and situated in a most beautiful part. It enjoys a secluded position 600 feet up with south aspect, adjoining a Common, and commands lovely views. It contains 3 reception, 6 bedrooms, bath, and has main electric light, water by electricity, and central heating, garage, stabling, charming garden with thousands of bulbs, bordered by a clear running brook, orchard, and meadow, in all 12 Acres. FREEHOLD £6,250

Excellent condition.

BENTALL, HORSLEY & BALDRY, as above.

# GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS

(ESTABLISHED 1776)

Grosvenor 1266 (4 lines)

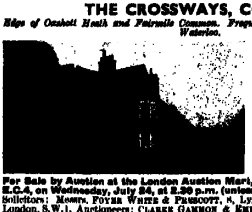
25, MOUNT ST., GROSVENOR SQ., W.1

Hobart Place, Eaton Sq., West Halkin St., Knightsbridge, and 48, Victoria St., Westminster, S.W.1

*FIRST TIME IN THE MARKET*

## THE CROSSWAYS, COBHAM

*Edge of Oxshott Heath and Fairmile Common. Frequent Southern Electric service to Waterloo.*



Well-built modern Residence in lovely secluded position. Ideal for business man. 7 bedrooms, 2 dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms. Main electric light and water. Modern drainage.

GARAGES. STABLING. COTTAGE.

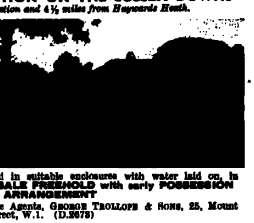
Delightful gardens with pond, small paddock and woodland in all about

6 ACRES

For Sale by Auction at the London Auction Mart, 155, Queen Victoria Street, E.C.4, on Wednesday, July 24, at 3.30 p.m. (unless sold privately beforehand). Solicitors: Messrs. FOYLE WHITE & PARSCOTT, 6, Lyons Place, Grosvenor Gardens, London, S.W.1. Auctioneers: CLARKE GAMMON & ENRYTE, 71, High Street, Guildford (Tel.: 2266), or GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, London, W.1.

## IN AN UNIQUE POSITION ON THE SUSSEX DOWNS

*Close to a village with station and 4½ miles from Haywards Heath.*



This delightful old-fashioned Residence with modern conveniences, approached by a long drive and containing 4 reception rooms, 3 bathrooms and 10 bedrooms, excellent domestic offices with servants' sitting room.

Inexpensive gardens and grounds.

Well-arranged stable yard with stabling for 16, garages, useful buildings and 2 cottages.

High lying and rich pastureland in suitable enclosures with water laid on, in all about 46 ACRES. FOR SALE FREEHOLD with early POSSESSION BY ARRANGEMENT

All further particulars of the Sole Agents, GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W.1. (D.2673)

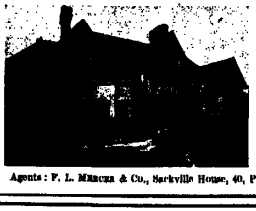
# F. L. MERCER & CO.

Regent 2481

SACKVILLE HOUSE, 40, PICCADILLY, W.1

## SURREY HILLS

*In a good residential district, 2½ miles from East Croydon station. City and West End reached in 35 minutes.*



ARCHITECT DESIGNED TUDOR-STYLE RESIDENCE

well equipped for labour saving. 3 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, fitted wash basins, bathroom. Main services. Garage for 2 cars. Hard tennis court and well-timbered gardens.

2½ ACRES

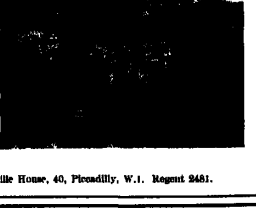
FREEHOLD £8,000

Golf course practically adjoins the property.

Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1. Tel.: Reg. 2481.

## RURAL SITUATION, NR. RUGBY

GEORGIAN HOUSE



Facing south, in old-world gardens with ornamental waters. 8 bedrooms, 3 reception rooms, 2 bathrooms. Well-fitted offices. Tripleks range. Main services. Stabling. Garage and rooms. Paddock.

7½ ACRES

£7,750 FREEHOLD

F. L. MERCER & Co., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1. Regent 2481.

# CHAMBERLAINE-BROTHERS & HARRISON

'Phone: Cheltenham 53639 (2 lines)

1, Imperial Square, CHELTENHAM
48, Castle Street, SHREWSBURY

'Phone: Shrewsbury 2081 (2 lines)

### "CUBBERLEY," NEAR ROSS-ON-WYE

FINE GEORGIAN COUNTRY RESIDENCE with about 10 bed., 2 bath., and 4 reception rooms. Ample buildings, cottage and beautiful gardens, etc., in all about 11 ACRES. *For Sale* privately or by Auction at an early date.—Sole Agents: CHAMBERLAINE-BROTHERS AND HARRISON, Cheltenham (as above), in conjunctive with Messrs. COOKE & ARKWRIGHT, Land Agents, Hereford.

### 12 MILES SOUTH OF BATH £4,950

PERFECT LITTLE GEORGIAN HOUSE OF CHARACTER, beautifully situated 2 miles Westbury Junction on Wilts.-Som. borders. 3 bed and dressing rooms, modern bathroom, 3 reception. Compact offices. Central heating. Main electric available shortly. Garage and stables. Old-world garden and large orchard. Fine views. Possession.—Sole Agents: CHAMBERLAINE-BROTHERS AND HARRISON (as above).

### LOVELY GEORGIAN COTSWOLD HOUSE £12,500

CHELTENHAM 4 MILES. Beautiful views. Perfect order. 3 receptions, 10 bed. (h. and c.), 2 bath. Aga cooker, electric light. Central heat. 3 cottages and excellent stabling, etc. Lovely grounds. 8 ACRES. Possession.—Sole Agents: CHAMBERLAINE-BROTHERS AND HARRISON, Cheltenham (as above.

### THE MANOR HOUSE, MORETON-IN-MARSH

A FINE OLD COTSWOLD RESIDENCE in perfect order, in the small town. 12 bedrooms (all h. and c.), 4 bath., and 4 reception. All mains. Central heat. Lovely garden and ample buildings. Ideal for private residence, high-class guest house, antique establishment, etc. Also BROADWAY HOUSE, adjoining, with 8 bedrooms (all h. and c.) 3 bath., and 3 reception rooms. All mains. Central heat. Aga cooker, and garden. Both properties with vacant possession. For sale privately or by Auction at an early date.—Auctioneers: CHAMBERLAINE-BROTHERS & HARRISON, Cheltenham (as above).

*By order of Major-General Sir Digby Shuttleworth.*

### PARKFIELDS, NEAR ROSS-ON-WYE

A CHARMING MINIATURE ESTATE OF 44½ ACRES, beautifully situated. Old stone House of character (7 bed., 2 bath., and 3 rec. rooms). Electric light. Central heat. Base cooker. 2 excellent cottages. Stabling and farmery. Old-world gardens with stream and VERY VALUABLE HIGHLY PRODUCTIVE LAND intensely cultivated for fruit and vegetables, and yielding high income. Vacant possession. For Sale privately or by Auction on July 25.—Auctioneers: CHAMBERLAINE-BROTHERS & HARRISON, Cheltenham (as above).

### WILTSHIRE. £5,950

A ATTRACTIVE OLD RESIDENCE near Westbury. 5 bed., 2 bath., 3 reception. Main electricity. Delightful old grounds and paddock. 2 ACRES.—CHAMBERLAINE-BROTHERS & HARRISON, Cheltenham (as above).

### NEAR BRECON 1 MILE TROUT FISHING

FINE OLD HOUSE OF CHARACTER. 18 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 4 reception. "Aga" cooker. Electric light. Central heating. Old gardens. 3 cottages, etc. 65 ACRES (LET). £7,000.—CHAMBERLAINE-BROTHERS AND HARRISON, Cheltenham, as above.

### OXON-GLOS. BORDERS £6,500

COTSWOLD HOUSE OF CHARACTER, secluded, in pretty village. 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception (1 very large). Main electric and water. Garage, etc. Pretty garden ⅔ ACRE.—CHAMBERLAINE-BROTHERS AND HARRISON, Cheltenham (as above).

### MID-HAMPSHIRE. 18 ACRES. £12,500

LOVELY WILLIAM AND MARY HOUSE in beautiful country. 10 bed, 3 bath, main elec. Central heating. Aga cooker. Ample buildings. 2 Cottages. Fine old grounds.—Sole Agents: CHAMBERLAINE-BROTHERS AND HARRISON, Cheltenham (as above).

# TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley St., W.1

Grosvenor 2861 Telegrams: "Cornishmen, London"

BUCKS. Iver village. PICTURESQUE 15TH-CENTURY RESIDENCE. Hall, cloakroom, 3 reception, 2 bedrooms, 5-6 bedrooms. All main services. Garage and outbuildings. ½ ACRE ENCLOSED GARDEN. FREEHOLD.—TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (22,642)

OXFORD 12 MILES. Charming Tudor Farmhouse, herring-bone brick and oak timbers, modernised and in excellent order. Hall, 2 reception, cloakroom, 2 bathrooms, 5 bedrooms. Main water and electricity. Telephone. Garage, stabling and outbuildings. Gardens and grassland 13 ACRES. £8,500 FREEHOLD. POSSESSION.—TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (20,390)

SOMERSET. Five minutes walk station. Charming 18th-CENTURY HOUSE. Three reception, 2 bath, 5 bedrooms. All main services. Flower, fruit and vegetable gardens. 4,000 GUINEAS. Freehold. Possession September.—TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (22,612)

OTTER'S RESIDENCE IN EXCELLENT ORDER. 6 ACRES.

SURREY HILLS. 700 ft. up, mile station. A particularly attractive and well-built Modern Residence: Lounge hall, billiards room, 3 reception, 4 bathrooms, 9 bed and dressing rooms. Main services, central heating, Esse cooker. Telephone. Garages, workshop, man's room, 2 excellent cottages. Delightful parklike grounds, *en tout cas* hard court, walled kitchen garden, glasshouses, orchard, and pretty woodland. POSSESSION SEPTEMBER. FREEHOLD £15,000 or near offer.—TRESIDDER AND Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (9,261)

OXFORD 6 miles. Rural position, views to Chilterns. Excellent Residence: Hall, 4 good reception (one 40 x 18), 2 bathrooms, 7/11 bedrooms (5 h./c.). Electric light, central heating, telephone. Garages. Charming grounds, hard tennis court, rose and rose gardens, kitchen and fruit garden, orchard and paddock. 4½ ACRES.—TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (22,660)

# WELLESLEY-SMITH & CO.,

17, BLAGRAVE STREET, READING. Reading 2920 & 4112.

## A CHOICE SMALL AGRICULTURAL ESTATE

*Rural situation in Berks within 5 miles county market town.*

### A SPLENDID GEORGIAN FARMHOUSE

Modernised and tastefully appointed, fine range of buildings, 3 cottages, arable and pasture land intersected by stream, all within ring fence. Wide hall, cloaks, 2-3 sitting, 5-6 bedrooms, 2 bath. *Partial* central heating, mains electric, and unfailing water *pumped automatically. Syndicate shoot.*

142 ACRES. FREEHOLD. £15,500

Recommended. WELLESLEY-SMITH, as above.

## GEORGIAN COTTAGE 30 MINUTES LONDON

Unspoilt location in Surrey but handy for main line. In splendid condition, with all mains and delightful gardens and prolific fruit. Hall, 3 sitting, 4 bed., bathroom, garage. 1¼ ACRES. PRESENT VALUE £4,750

WELLESLEY-SMITH, as above.

## COTSWOLDS

*600 ft. up, close to M'inchinhampton Common and commanding magnificent views.*

FINE STONE-BUILT RESIDENCE of modern construction in excellent repair and with all conveniences. Hall, cloakroom, 3 reception, 7 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Cottage. Garden. Main electricity, water. Central heating. Up to 16 acres. Secondary house and cottage if required. For Sale, Freehold, with Possession.

DAVIS, CHAMPION & PAYNE, Stroud, Glos. Tel. 675/6 Est. 1772.

5, MOUNT ST., LONDON, W.1

# CURTIS & HENSON

Grosvenor 3131 (3 lines) Established 1875

## FAVOURITE PART OF HERTFORDSHIRE. LONDON ABOUT 20 MILES. IDEAL FAMILY HOUSE

On high ground overlooking wooded valley of a noted Trout Stream. Station under 1 mile with frequent electric trains to the West End and City of London

FACING SOUTH-EAST

### IMPOSING ELIZABETHAN STYLE RESIDENCE

Sumptuously equipped throughout. In perfect order. Polished oak flooring. Oak panelled walls. Beamed ceilings. 12 bedrooms, 4 splendid bathrooms. Panelled hall. Double drawing room in Adam style 32 ft. x 18 ft. 6 in. Elizabethan oak panelled dining room. Sun loggia and roof garden. Garage. Model farmery. 3 good cottages. Glasshouses. Main electric light, power, gas and water. Central heating.

Unusually beautiful gardens. Grass and hard courts. Bowling green. Croquet lawn. Orchards. Paddocks. Beautiful woodlands intersected by trout stream. Swimming pool. Rotunda. Tea cabin. Waterfall.

DOUBLE DRAWING ROOM

**FREEHOLD FOR SALE** with any area up to about **31 ACRES** to suit purchaser's requirements. **VACANT POSSESSION**

Personally inspected and strongly recommended as a unique opportunity by CURTIS & HENSON, as above.



SURVEYORS AND VALUERS

# EDWARD SYMMONS & PARTNERS

LAND AND ESTATE AGENTS

(EDWARD A. SYMMONS, F.A.I., F.S.A.I. JOHN A. JONES, F.V.I. J. F. W. LOVEDAY, F.V.I., A.A.I.P.A.)
36, BERKELEY STREET, LONDON, W.1 MAYFAIR 0016

### SURREY

*With 22 acres.*

**DAILY REACH OF TOWN,** overlooking a forest. 8 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms. Garage 2 cars, stabling. 2 tennis courts, orchard, paddock and kitchen garden, in all **22 ACRES. FREEHOLD £15,000.**—Apply, EDWARD SYMMONS & PARTNERS, as above.

### SUSSEX

*30 miles London.*

**A PERFECT GEM** in reproduction Tudor style standing in a charming woodland setting. 4 bedrooms, 2-3 reception rooms, bathroom, kitchen, etc. Garage. central heating, main electricity and water, telephone. Delightful grounds of over **2½ ACRES.** Fully furnished and equipped. **PRICE £3,950 FREEHOLD.**—Apply, EDWARD SYMMONS & PARTNERS, as above.

### BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

*In a woodland setting.*

**CHARMING MODERN RESIDENCE,** 18 miles from London. On fringe of a golf course in most sought-after area. 5 bedrooms, 3 reception rooms, bathroom, maid's room and excellent domestic offices. Also modern house for staff. Central heating. Garage, outbuildings. Grounds ¾ **ACRE. FREEHOLD FOR SALE.**—Apply, Sole Agents, EDWARD SYMMONS & PARTNERS, as above.



*By direction of the Trustees of H. S. Peacock, deceased.*

## NORFOLK

*King's Lynn 7 miles. Downham Market 4 miles.*

Part of the South Runcton Estate comprising the Freehold Agricultural and Sporting Property known as

### LANE'S FARM

**719 ACRES**

(575 acres arable, 115 acres grass).

**ATTRACTIVE FARMHOUSE**

3 sets of well-equipped premises, 15 cottages, and including 13½ acres of thriving young woodlands.

**Mainly with Vacant Possession.**

**For Sale by Auction in One Lot (unless previously sold by Private Treaty) at the Globe Hotel, King's Lynn, on Tuesday, September 3, 1946, at 3 p.m.**

*By direction of the Executors of Wm. C. Dickson, deceased.*

## PERTHSHIRE

*Stirling 8 miles, Glasgow 36 miles, Edinburgh 45 miles.*

THE RESIDENTIAL, AGRICULTURAL AND SPORTING ESTATE OF

### GLASSINGALL

comprising

THE ATTRACTIVE MEDIUM-SIZED MANSION, GLASSINGALL HOUSE, Grounds and Gardens and 70 acres of Woodlands, with **Vacant Possession** on completion of the purchase, and

CAIRNSTON AND GATESIDE FARMS

**513 ACRES,** let on lease expiring Martinmas, 1950, at a rent of **£380 A YEAR**

**IN ALL ABOUT 603 ACRES**

**For Sale by Auction at EDINBURGH in SEPTEMBER (unless previously sold by Private Treaty).**

Particulars from the Auctioneers:

## Messrs. BIDWELL & SONS

CHARTERED SURVEYORS, LAND AGENTS AND AUCTIONEERS,

**Head Office: 2 King's Parade, Cambridge, and at Ely and Ipswich, also at 49, St. James's Street, London, S.W.1.**



Tel.: 32281 (2 lines)

# C. W. INGRAM, F.S.I.

99, PRINCES STREET, EDINBURGH

### HATTON ESTATE, MIDLOTHIAN

**AREA 161 ACRES**

**HATTON HOUSE**

*Eight miles west of Edinburgh.*

famous Midlothian Residence since 1653, containing 5 reception rooms, 21 bedrooms (in all), 7 bathrooms, etc. Electric light. Central heating. Garage, stables. In excellent condition.

Six cottages. 95 acres of parks, wooded policies, etc., also.

**ORCHARDFIELD FARM OF 77 ACRES, LET ON LEASE**

**Apply Sole Agent: C. W. INGRAM, F.S.I., 99, Princes Street, Edinburgh**

### ATTRACTIVE RESIDENTIAL ESTATE

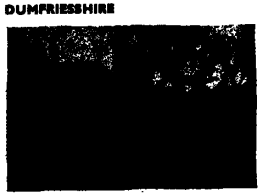
**DUMFRIESSHIRE**

**ABOUT 40 ACRES**

Three reception rooms, 9 bed and dressing rooms, 4 bathrooms, etc.

County water supply. Excellent walled garden. **GARAGE** and **STABLING.** Grass parks, lodge, cottage.

To be sold privately.



FISHING IN THE DISTRICT.

**Sole Selling Agent: C. W. INGRAM, F.S.I., 99, Princes Street, Edinburgh**

BOURNEMOUTH:
WILLIAM FOX, F.S.I., F.A.I.
H. SHODDART FOX, F.A.S.I., F.A.I.
H. INGLBY-FOX, F.A.S.I., A.A.I.

# FOX & SONS

LAND AGENTS
BOURNEMOUTH—SOUTHAMPTON—BRIGHTON

SOUTHAMPTON:
ANTHONY R. FOX, F.S.I., F.A.I.
T. BRIAN COX, F.A.S.I., A.A.I.
BRIGHTON:
A. ELLINGTON, F.A.I.P.S.

ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL RESIDENCES ON THE SHORES ON POOLE HARBOUR

## SANDBANKS, NEAR BOURNEMOUTH

*Perfectly situated facing the beautiful Poole Harbour and possessing extremely valuable and highly important frontage to the water. 5 miles from Bournemouth and the historic town of Poole.*

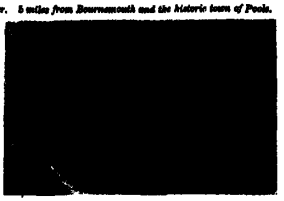
The magnificently situated Freehold Marine Residence

"NORTH HAVEN POINT"

8 bedrooms, dressing room, bathroom, 3 reception rooms, complete domestic offices. Also

Three particularly fine Building Sites adjoining (all with harbour frontage and uninterrupted views), and opposite 2¾ ACRES extremely valuable Leasehold Building Land. All public services.

VACANT POSSESSION on completion of the purchase.

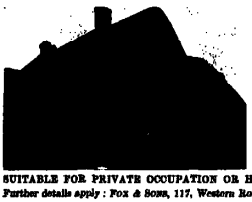


To be Sold by Auction at St. Peter's Hall, Hinton Road, Bournemouth, on July 31, 1946, at 3 p.m.
Solicitors: Messrs. VANDERCOM, STAFFOR & Co., 35, Spring Gardens, Trafalgar Square, London, S.W.1.
Auctioneers: Messrs. FOX & SONS, 44-52, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth.

## FERRING-ON-SEA, SUSSEX COAST

*Worthing about 4 miles. Goring Station (S.R. electric) 1½ miles.*

"OLD FLINT HOUSE," FERRING
CHARMING OLD-WORLD RESIDENCE



Set in peaceful grounds of about 2 ACRES.

5 principal bedrooms, 3 maids', 3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, cloakroom, good domestic offices.

Garage. Gardener's cottage.

Price £8,750 Freehold.

VACANT POSSESSION.

All main services. Central heating. Telephone.

SUITABLE FOR PRIVATE OCCUPATION OR HIGH-CLASS GUEST HOUSE.
*Further details apply: Fox & Sons, 117, Western Road, Brighton. Tel.: Hove 2277.*

## ON THE FRINGE OF THE BEAUTIFUL NEW FOREST

Occupying a magnificent position on high ground and commanding beautiful views from all principal rooms.

For Sale, this recently constructed Modern Residence
Built under the supervision of a well-known architect and particularly planned to afford the maximum of sunshine obtainable.

6 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, boxroom, lounge hall, lounge 37 ft. 9 in. by 20 ft.; dining room, study, cloak room, excellent domestic offices. Co's electricity. Main water. Rose cooker. Garage for 4 cars. Stabling, kennels. Fine brick terrace forming veritable sun trap.

Tastefully laid-out gardens and grounds comprising formal rose garden and lily pond, rockeries, herbaceous borders, lawns, natural heath and woodland.

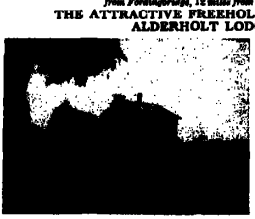
11 ACRES PRICE £12,500 FREEHOLD

For particulars apply: Fox & Sons, Land Agents, Bournemouth.

## DORSET

*Close to the County Boundary and to the borders of Hampshire and Wiltshire. Two miles from Fordingbridge, 12 miles from Salisbury.*

THE ATTRACTIVE FREEHOLD RESIDENCE
ALDERHOLT LODGE



of Regency character, situated in a delightful part of the County in charming rural country and having unobstructed extensive views from all parts including the New Forest.

Seven bedrooms, fitted bathroom, boxroom, 3 reception rooms, ample domestic offices. Main water. Electricity available. Outbuildings.

Productive, well-kept kitchen and pleasure gardens including herbaceous beds, pleasure lawn, rose beds, asparagus bed, soft and hard fruit bushes and trees.

The whole extending to an area of nearly

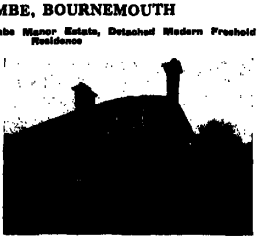
ONE ACRE

Vacant possession on completion.
To be Sold by Auction on the Premises on Wednesday, July 24, 1946 (unless previously sold privately).
Solicitors: Messrs. WILSON & SONS, 23, Crane Street, Salisbury. Auctioneers: Messrs. Fox & Sons, 44-52, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth.

## BOSCOMBE, BOURNEMOUTH

On the delightful Boscombe Manor Estate, Detached Modern Freehold Residence

Well constructed of brick and rough-cast, with slated roof, close to the sea and main shopping centre. Five bedrooms, bathroom, 3 reception rooms, kitchen and offices. Excellent garage. All main services. Well matured garden with lawns, flower beds, and borders and crazy-paved paths.



VACANT POSSESSION SEPTEMBER 29, 1946. PRICE £6,500 FREEHOLD

View by appointment through the Agents: Fox & Sons, 789, Christchurch Road, Boscombe, or 44-52, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth.

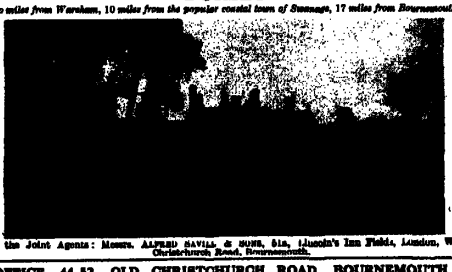
## DORSET

*Two miles from Wareham, 10 miles from the popular coastal town of Swanage, 17 miles from Bournemouth.*

The Valuable Freehold Residential Sporting and Agricultural Property

"BINNEGAR HALL ESTATE"

Occupying a fine position with extensive views over the beautiful Isle of Purbeck and pleasantly situated well away from the road. The imposing stone-built Residence, erected in 1867, is very attractive in design and contains: 15 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, entrance hall, fine suite of 4 reception rooms, housekeeper's room, kitchen and complete offices. Main electricity. Picturesque entrance lodge. Fine range of stabling, garages, etc., chauffeur's cottage, 9 cottages. Binnegar Farm, with good house, excellent buildings and about 160 ACRES.



Beautifully timbered and well-kept gardens and grounds with wide spreading lawns, lovely flowering shrubs and trees, productive walled kitchen garden. Tennis court. Woodland and rhododendron growths, etc. Main electricity. Drainage to septic tank. Water supply. The whole comprising an area of nearly 280 ACRES.

Included is a salmon pool in the River Frome and some trout fishing in the River Piddle. A part of the residence, stables and some land is requisitioned by the military. Binnegar Farm is let to a good tenant. Some of the cottages are let and some are occupied by employees.

VACANT POSSESSION OF THE REMAINDER, IN HAND, ON COMPLETION OF THE PURCHASE

Further particulars may be obtained of the Joint Agents: Messrs. ALFRED SAVILL & SONS, 51a, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, W.C.2, or Messrs. Fox & Sons, 44-52, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth.

FOX & SONS, HEAD OFFICE, 44-52, OLD CHRISTCHURCH ROAD, BOURNEMOUTH (11 BRANCH OFFICES)
Telephone: Bournemouth 6300 (Five lines)

Telegrams: "Wood, Agents, Wesdo, London."

# JOHN D. WOOD & CO.

23, BERKELEY SQUARE, LONDON, W.1

Mayfair 6341 (10 lines)

## WINCHESTER DISTRICT

**FOR SALE FREEHOLD with about 170 ACRES**

**LOVELY RED BRICK FRONTED EARLY GEORGIAN HOUSE**
with period panelling and mantelpieces, completely modernised and in perfect order with recent painting and distemper.

Good hall and 4 reception rooms, 11-12 bedrooms (including 2 self-contained suites), 4 bathrooms. Electric light. Central heating. First-class water supply. Esse cooker. Charming flint-walled gardens with lovely trees. 2 service cottages. Farm of **108 ACRES** with superior modern house, dairy buildings and 2 cottages, at present let.

A particularly attractive property in every way.

Recommended by JOHN D. WOOD & Co., 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1. (60,688)

## EAST SUSSEX

**CHARMING CHARACTER HOUSE WITH HOME FARM**

Hall, 3 reception, office, 6-7 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Main electricity. Central heating. Farmhouse and cottage. Model buildings for attested herd.

**ABOUT 112 ACRES**

in excellent order. With possession of the whole.

**PRICE £20,000**

Inspected and recommended by the Sole Agents: JOHN D. WOOD & Co., as above (31,958)

## HONEYHANGER, HINDHEAD

**ATTRACTIVE COUNTRY RESIDENCE**

approached by a long drive within easy reach of bus route, shops, station, etc.

Lounge hall, two fine reception rooms, cloakroom, complete offices, 12 bed and dressing rooms, two bathrooms, etc. Double garage, workshop and playroom with four rooms over. Beautifully timbered grounds with well grown trees and shrubs. Tennis Lawn. Kitchen garden, etc. In all about 19 acres, which

Messrs. JOHN D. WOOD & Co. in conjunction with C. BRIDGER & SONS will submit to **AUCTION (unless sold by private treaty in the meantime)** at the Royal Huts Hotel Annexe, Hindhead, on **TUESDAY, JULY, 16th, 1946, at 3 p.m.**

*By order of the Court.*

## SUSSEX-KENT BORDERS

**DOWNASH, FLIMWELL, ATTRACTIVE RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY**

**of ABOUT 80 ACRES**

with ample farm buildings for pedigree dairy herd of about 40 head. Fine Modern Residence in Tudor Manor style of red brick with mullioned windows. Lodge. Four sitting rooms, 12 bed., 6 bath. Main electricity and central heating. Cottage over garage.

**VACANT POSSESSION**

of house, grounds, farm buildings and one cottage.

**FOR SALE BY AUCTION (unless previously sold privately) on Thursday, JULY 25, 1946,** at The London Auction Mart, 155, Queen Victoria Street, E.C.4.

Particulars from the Joint Auctioneers: Messrs. BRACKETT & SONS, Tunbridge Wells, and JOHN D. WOOD & Co., 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1. (30,879)

# FAREBROTHER, ELLIS & CO.

Established 1799
AUCTIONEERS. CHARTERED SURVEYORS. LAND AGENTS.
29, FLEET STREET, LONDON, E.C.4

Central 9344/5/6/7

Telegrams: "Farebrother, London"

## BERKSHIRE

*Newbury about 3 miles.*

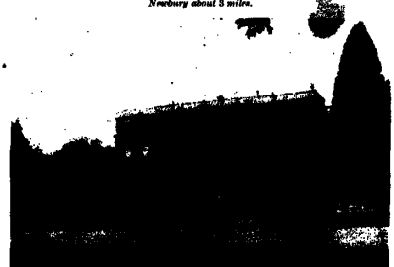
The important Country Seat

**BENHAM PARK**

Fine suite of entertaining rooms, 26 principal and secondary bedrooms, 7 bathrooms.

Ample staff accommodation.

Garages. Stabling. 8 cottages.



Pleasure and kitchen gardens. Well-timbered parklands with lake.

In all about **200 ACRES** (or smaller area if required).

**TO BE LET**

Furnished or unfurnished ON LEASE for a term of years.

**Further particulars apply: Messrs. FAREBROTHER, ELLIS & CO., 29, Fleet Street, E.C.4. Central 9344.**

TOTTENHAM COURT RD., W.1 (Euston 7000)

# MAPLE & Co., LTD.

5, GRAFTON ST., MAYFAIR W.1 (Regent 4685)

**OVERLOOKING RICHMOND PARK**

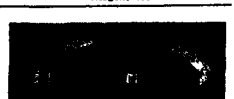
*In a beautiful position only a few miles from Town.*
This delightful Period style House in delightful garden of **8 ACRES.** Beamed lounge hall, drawing room, oak-panelled dining room, morning room. Excellent offices, maids' sitting room, 6 bed and dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms. Garage for 2 cars. Tennis lawn, rockery. Kitchen garden.
Vacant possession.
**FREEHOLD £15,000**

Specially recommended by the Owner's Agents, MAPLE & Co., as above.

**SOUTHGATE, N.14**

*Just off the Green. Close to Tube station. Ideal for business men.*

**FREEHOLD MODERN RESIDENCE**
Large hall, fine lounge, dining room, morning room, cloakroom. Excellent offices with maids' sitting room. 7 bedrooms, 2 fine bathrooms.
Central heating, panel fires, expensive fittings and in good decorative order. Enclosed yard with large garage, 3-stall stable. Pretty garden with rockery, fountain, rose garden, etc.
To be sold with Vacant Possession.
Full details of the Agents: MAPLE & Co., as above.



ESTATE OFFICES

Kensington 1490
Telegrams:
"Estate, Harrods, London"

# HARRODS

34-36, HANS CRESCENT, LONDON, S.W.1

Surrey Offices:
West Byfleet
and Haslemere

## ESSEX c.4

*Handy for Dunmow and Chelmsford.*

### BEAUTIFUL OLD TUDOR COTTAGE

Full of oak beams and open fireplaces, etc. Hall, 2 reception rooms, 4 bed and dressing rooms, bathroom, usual offices.

CO.'S WATER. ELECTRIC LIGHT. DRAINAGE.
PARTIAL CENTRAL HEATING. GARAGE.

Delightful gardens with lawns, lily pool, kitchen garden.

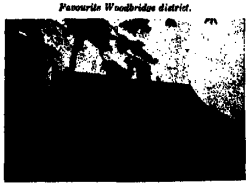
**IN ALL 1 ACRE**

**ONLY £5,000 FREEHOLD**

HARRODS LTD., 34-36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1 (*Tel.: Kensington* 1490. *Extn.* 806.)

## SUFFOLK c.4

*Favourite Woodbridge district.*



### FASCINATING OLD CHARACTER RESIDENCE

Hall, 3 large reception, 8 to 10 bed and dressing, bathroom, complete offices. Co.'s water and electric light. Central heating. Bungalow, garage, useful outbuildings. Inexpensive grounds, tennis and other lawns, walled kitchen garden, paddock.

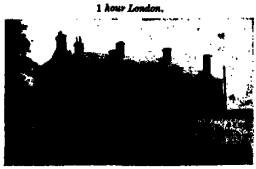
**In all 10 ACRES**

**ONLY £6,500 FREEHOLD**

HARRODS LTD., 34-36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1. (*Tel.: Kensington* 1490. *Extn.* 806.)

## BUCKS, BEDS AND NORTHANTS BORDERS c.2

*Amid rural surroundings, 6 miles main line station, than 1 hour London.*



### REGENCY HOUSE WITH MOATED GARDEN

Four reception, 7 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Main services, electric heating. Garage 3. Stabling. Beautiful gardens with moat, also walled garden.

**ABOUT 3 ACRES**

*Farmery with cottage and farm of about 104 Acres (let).*

**FOR SALE FREEHOLD. VACANT POSSESSION (EXCEPT FARM)**

Recommended by HARRODS LTD., 34-36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1. (*Tel.: Kensington* 1490. *Extn.* 806.)

## WEST SUSSEX H./c.3

FOR SALE WITH IMMEDIATE POSSESSION

### ATTRACTIVE 16TH CENTURY FARMHOUSE

*In beautiful surroundings, 3 miles Haslemere, express service to Waterloo.*

In excellent condition. 2 reception, 5 bedrooms. "Aga" cooker. Fine period barn, 60 ft. by 20 ft., converted into a reception room with parquet flooring. Flat, 3 rooms with bathroom. Stabling. Garage for 2. Kitchen garden, tennis court.

**IN ALL 16½ ACRES**

Co.'s electric light and water.

**£12,750 FREEHOLD**

HARRODS LTD., 34-36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1 (*Tel.: Kensington* 1490. *Extn.* 807); and at Haslemere, Surrey (*Tel.: 953*).

## BERKS c.3

*A charming Tudor House in an unspoilt village. Amidst pleasant surroundings about 3 miles from Twyford, 8 miles Maidenhead.*

### A HOUSE OF CHARM AND CHARACTER

FITTED CO.'S ELECTRIC LIGHT, GAS AND WATER, RADIATORS.

3 receptions, 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. garages. Artistic garden with flower beds, ornamental trees, etc.

**IN ALL ABOUT ½ ACRE**

**FOR SALE FREEHOLD**

Inspected and recommended by the Sole Agents: HARRODS LTD., 34-36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1. (*Tel.: Kensington* 1490. *Extn.* 807.)

## HANDY FOR CAMBERLEY STAFF COLLEGE AND READING c.1

*Well-designed modern residence 1¼ hours from Waterloo.*

3 reception and 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.

ALL MAIN SERVICES. 2 GARAGES.

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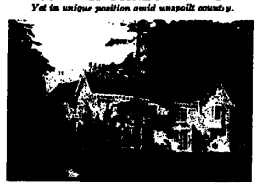

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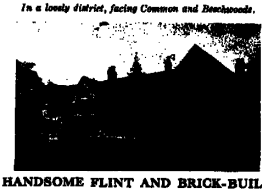

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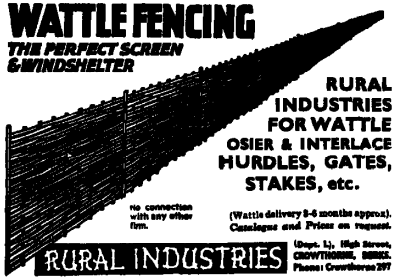

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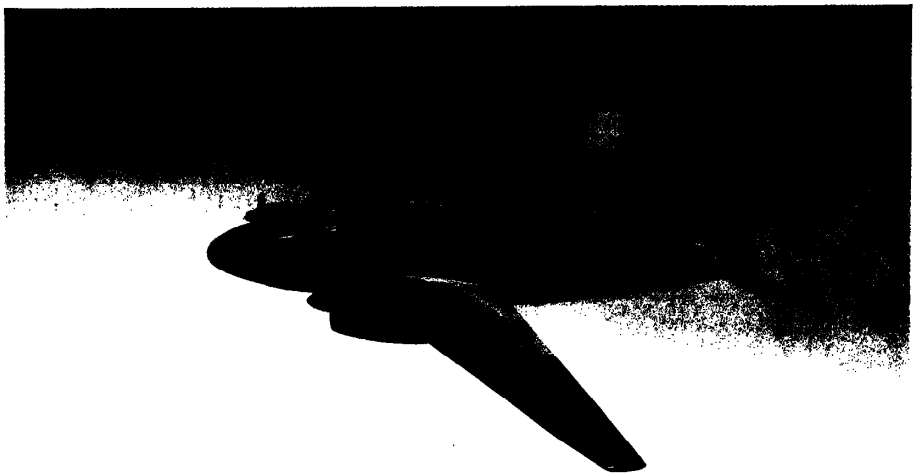

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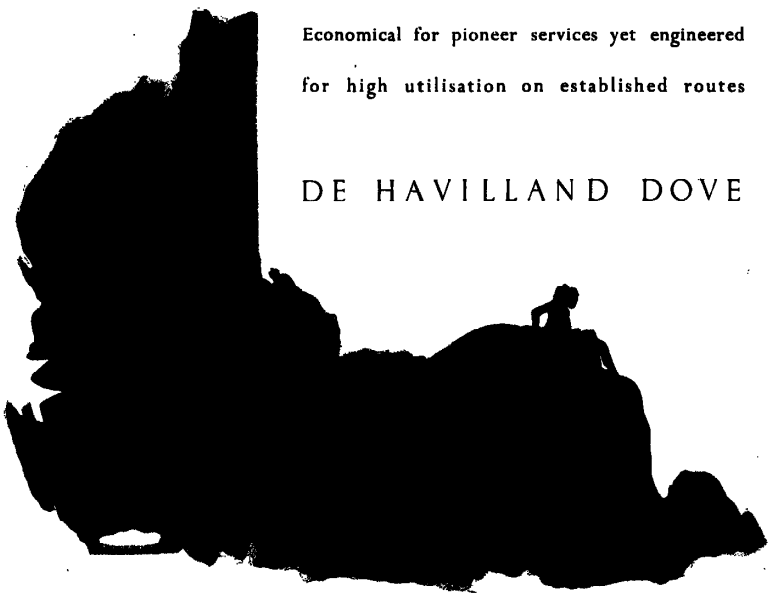

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# COUNTRY LIFE

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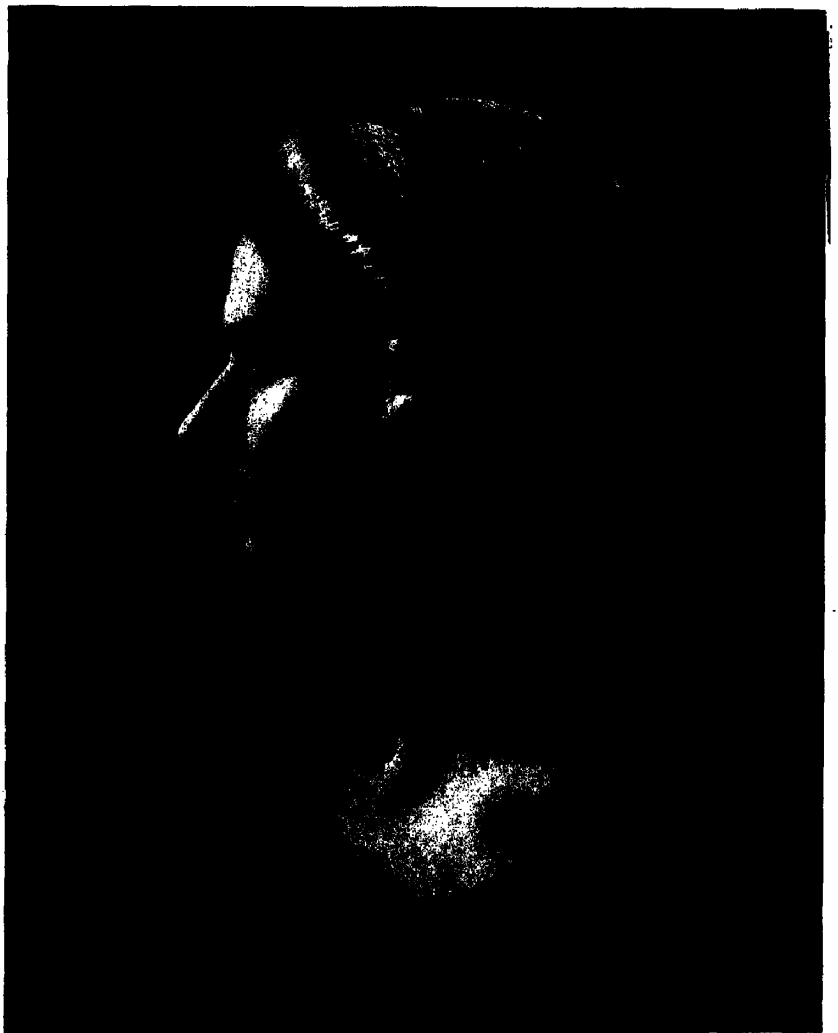

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## THE NEW CITY PLAN

A YEAR ago the Minister of Town and Country Planning rejected the Corporation's plan for the City of London on the implicit grounds of its unimaginative and insufficiently expert handling of the unique opportunity presented. Its chief weaknesses were failure to deal adequately with traffic, in spite of a great amount of street widening; a "façade" approach to the architectural aspect; and general neglect to consult expert opinion. The Interim Report just published has been produced by the two consultants then engaged, Dr. C. H. Holden and Professor W. G. Holford, though the Improvements and Town Planning Committee still register hesitation on some points in a covering letter to the Report.

The two authors have concentrated on establishing "a workable physical framework on the basis of which immediate, and long term, redevelopment schemes can be evolved" respectively. Consequently, they deal primarily with street lay-out, dividing their programmes into two stages, 1946–55, and 1955–75. They assume that traffic will double in volume in 30 years, but that a total day population slightly smaller must be envisaged than before the war, both as a probability and for the sake of improvements. Generally they agree with the zoning of offices and warehouses recommended in the earlier Report, though with modifications. However, their approach to architectural control is fundamentally different, preferring "freedom of treatment and massing in large volumes, with emphasis on a high standard of day-lighting," rather than rigid regulations of height and façade, except in the vicinity of St. Paul's. A subsequent report will illustrate "the variety of form and lay-out possible on typical City blocks."

Against this background, the new streets are their outstanding proposals. The two east-west streets, on the lines of London Wall and Upper Thames Street, link to form an inner ring round the City proper, thus relieving the centre; the new north-south road connects Cripplegate to the Cannon Street-Queen Victoria Street junction; and the new Square, projected at the latter point, provides a fresh hub for the City. Treatment of St. Paul's precincts adopts the Dean and Chapter's scheme with traffic carried along Carter Lane on its southern verge to the new Square. This Square, which would largely preserve the wonderful view of St. Paul's from the south-east, opened up by bombing, and which should be architecturally designed, would serve a double purpose: it would create a new and real centre of the City, equi-distant from St. Paul's, the Bank and Guildhall; and, by being sufficiently large to deal with the intersection of the main internal traffic routes, would further relieve the present congestion at the Bank and other nodal points. Gradual widening of other main thoroughfares is contemplated, but in between them the existing "precincts" appear to be retained.

The first impression given by the new proposals is, in short, a nice balance between the visionary and the conservative, the innovations essential for the City's continued vitality and the traditional character of London. The plan is only a sketch; all its proposals—notably the high level roads shown over Smithfield and Upper Thames Street, and the Thames embankment for pedestrians only—need further elucidation; the plentiful subterranean car-parks indicated, and the possibility of fly-over road junctions, must be worked out more fully. But it is a plan that looks as though it will work and on which work can be put in hand forthwith.

### JULY

*THE privet smells too sweet,*
*And the syringa.*
*Now the clear cuckoo fumbles his repeat,*
*He should not linger.*

*Die, passion-hearted peonies,*
*Bestrew the lawn.*
*Come rounding apples on the orchard trees*
*And come ripe corn.*

FRANCES CORNFORD.

## THE NATIONAL TRUST'S APPEAL

PERHAPS it is not surprising that that peculiarly English institution, the National Trust, should, at a time when seemingly unlimited money is being voted for the nationalisation of almost everything, have reached what the Master of Trinity calls a crisis in its financial affairs. Individuals have to pay for the war, and for the vast army of officials apparently necessary for every project of socialisation. Of those who have a true sense of the value of things of beauty and historic interest, few can have much money to spare. Two hundred and thirty in every million, however, is far too low a proportion, and there must be many more who could afford to support with membership subscriptions, if not with benefactions, an organisation which they undoubtedly believe in, but whose difficulties they do not, perhaps, quite understand. The essence of the Trust's work for the nation lies in its independence of Government control, and fortunately this is understood by the Chancellor of the Exchequer who, while he has announced his intention to seek Parliamentary approval for a pound for pound contribution to the Trust's Appeal Fund, has made it clear that he does not want the Trust to be controlled by the State, which would be the inevitable result of any system of annual grants. The present situation of the Trust is quite simple. Since 1939, the area of its properties has increased from 49,000 acres to 115,000, and the number of separate properties has grown from 500 to 900 in the same time. Salaries, wages and costs of repairs have increased meanwhile, and the pre-war balance of the Trust's finances has naturally been upset. In addition, there are six years' arrears of repairs to be overtaken. Properties are coming in fast—too fast to be comfortable—and the object of the present appeal is to enable the Trust to manage them without bankruptcy. It is not, at the moment, a question of buying more properties, but of administering efficiently those which are given or bought by others. "Large benefactions" to the Trust when they are announced no doubt give the impression that its financial assets are rapidly expanding. But, the properties being inalienable, the chief increase is in responsibilities.

### LEARNING TO SEE

IT is encouraging that one member of the Government at least, the Under-Secretary to the Ministry of Education, feels passionately about seeing. Mr. Hardman, speaking to the Council for Visual Education, gave it as his conviction that the atrophy of the power and enjoyment of sight is one of the fundamental causes of the *malaise* and boredom in modern society. It was part, he said, of a vast cultural breakdown originating in industrialism, affecting thought and speech as well as religion and art, and reflected in the collapse everywhere of our visual environment. He quoted Professor Whitehead as suggesting that the lack of proper, that is seemly, environment, causes a loss, to every member of the community, of balance and vitality and happiness. It is a tall order to redress so serious a state of affairs, if such is the case—and, comparing England as it is to the England of only a century ago, it is difficult to deny. But a beginning at least can be made by children being encouraged to use their eyes for enjoying or criticising what they see. At the outset, however, they are unlikely to develop visual perception in the depressingly hideous school buildings in which most of them have to spend their most impressionable years. Much can be done by developing the gift of drawing and colouring natural to all children, but it is probably true that there is a close connection between natural taste and the quality of school buildings. In Western nations, where art is living and popular—Sweden, Switzerland and Holland for instance—the schools are almost uniformly of attractive design, and vice versa.

### A NEAR THING AT LUDLOW

AN example of what results from the lack of visual perception is aptly provided by a proposal of the Highways and Estates Committee of the Ludlow Borough Council to demolish the exquisite Georgian Butter Cross at the head of the beautiful main street in their lovely little town, in order to form a traffic centre. The building, it will be remembered, figured prominently in the photographs of Ludlow recently published in COUNTRY LIFE, when it was established that a little-known Cheshire architect, William Baker, designed what was described as the culminating feature of the most beautiful street in England. Fortunately, a majority of the Council were fully alive to the folly and ignorance of the proposal, and it was rejected. One councillor sensibly said that, after all, Ludlow Castle is only a heap of stones, fulfilling no practical purpose—except to attract thousands of visitors to Ludlow—and might equally well be demolished on the grounds advanced by the Committee. Equally, the solution of traffic problems, not only in Ludlow but elsewhere, is not to pull out the heart of a town, but to by-pass the bottleneck. In any case, for a town so famous as Ludlow for its architectural wealth and beauty to destroy one of its treasures at this time of day would be not only vandalism but waste of good money.

### FRUIT FACTS

RIPENESS is all? Certainly it is much—it is more than usual—in these times when there is no cream and little or no sugar for strawberries and raspberries. Happy the countrymen who can wait for their fruit to ripen fully, for townsmen must suffer from the fact that most fruit is picked unripe enough to travel to market without injury. Hence a multiplicity of wry mouths and a shortage of "those antiquated cherries, full of sugar-cracks," which Keats loved. Cherries, incidentally, being at once a long-term tree crop and mostly unsuitable for jam-making, have not suffered like strawberries and raspberries from the war. Further, cherries and dessert gooseberries have risen in the order of desirable things because neither seems to call for cream or sugar. One unpleasant fact we might as well face now, as gracefully as we can: though next summer may well bring rather more strawberries and raspberries and a sufficiency of sugar, the prospects of having any cream before 1948 seem negligible. Indeed, it may be 1950 before supplies are back to the standard of 1939, so we can smile at some of the mediæval advice.

*Beware at eve of crayme of cowe, and also of the goots because it is too late*
*Of strawberries and hurtilberries with the cold joncate.*

Hurtleberries (*alias* whortleberries, bilberries whinberries) should be as plentiful as ever on the moors, and very good pies and jam they make, but the demand so rose during the war that pickers who ignored the price control order could earn as much as 70s. a day!

# A COUNTRYMAN'S NOTES

By

**Major C. S. JARVIS**

ONE hears and reads constantly of the "three-fly-only" angler who saves himself quite an amount of worry, time and space by carrying with him on a fishing day no more than three patterns of flies. I have never yet had the courage—or perhaps confidence is the better word—to join the ranks of these conservatives, but many seasons on our southern chalk streams have caused me to think that we pay far more attention to the exact pattern of fly than is necessary, and that on nine days out of ten the trout when in a taking mood will accept any one of the "three-fly-only" angler's offerings irrespective of the insect on the water. As nowadays there never seems to be enough insect on the water to cause a real rise, the argument in favour of three patterns only would seem to be stronger than ever.

* * *

I HAVE never quite made up my mind what patterns I would pin my faith to if I became a real convert to the three-fly creed, but I think the March brown would be one of them. I have recollections of many good, but pernickety, trout seen during the spasmodic rises of late summer, which have fallen to the robust charms of this harbinger of early and chilly spring after constant refusals of more seasonable offerings. I do not know what it is that makes this fly attractive, but imagine it is due to the life-like way in which, owing to its generous hackle, it sits on the surface of the water. I think most dry-fly anglers are agreed that trout are colour-blind, but that like colour-blind people they can detect shades and have a very keen eye for outline, and that the March brown, despite its cream and rich brown suiting, may look to a colour-blind trout exactly like one of the many varieties of olives, or possibly one of the gnats. The determining factor no doubt is the easy natural cock of the fly on the water, and, if we dry-fly anglers had better eyesight than most of us possess, we should no doubt realise that the persistent refusal of the correct fly for the day is due solely to its being presented badly, and that owing to its sparse hackle it is floating with a sharp list to port or starboard, or half-submerged and down over its Plimsoll mark.

In other days a fly which would certainly have figured in my three is the tup, but this pattern would seem to have gone out of fashion now with the trout, and consequently with the angler. I believe the lure originated in Dorset, for it is made from ram's wool, and in Dorset the ram is, or was, known as the tup. When first it came into use—somewhere in the 'nineties, I think—it was an instantaneous and remarkable success, but, like that of film stars, its popularity was ephemeral, and there is little demand for it now either by the trout or by customers from the tackle-maker.

* * *

THE most successful fisherman on the Dorchester Club water on the Frome, the late General Hannay, was a "one-fly-only" fisherman. His fly, which was his own invention and is known as Hannay's fancy, is a hackle fly of an indeterminate grey colour, which has some resemblance to both the tup and the half-stone. During the latter part of General Hannay's life he used no other fly in spring, summer or autumn, and in all those years he headed the list of members of the Club for the total bag of the season.

Despite all the arguments in favour of the "three-fly-only" school of thought on chalk-streams I do not think this rule applies to wet-fly fishing on lough or loch where normally one uses a tail fly with two droppers, as on days when trout are taking well it will be found that practically every fish has risen to one pattern to the exclusion of the other two. Frequently also it is a case, when there are two rods in the boat, that one will be having constant sport while the other flogs the water without result, and this inequality will be at once rectified when the luckless one puts on the popular fly of the day. The explanation of this is probably that under water a trout can distinguish patterns and shades far more easily than it can when it has to look upwards at a floating lure, the outlines of which are blurred and distorted by the refraction of light.

*Peter Hill*

ON THE PEMBROKESHIRE COAST: PWLL GWAELOD, NEAR DINAS HEAD

* * *

A SHORT time before the war there was released a Nature film of a day in a trout's life in which one saw things from a fish-eye's point of view, and it was most disturbing to the angler as he realised that the unfortunate trout had much to put up with, or up with which to put, if one prefers one's English in "tight creaking boots." The reflection on the water of a quite ordinary plus-foured fisherman with an 8-ft. rod was distorted into a horrific monster suggestive of a [illegible]ly-bearded Poseidon with uplifted trident, and a small gnat looked like a menacing dragon-fly with a double sting in its tail. When a portion of the floating insect penetrated the actual surface of the water further frightful manifestations occurred with far-reaching effects, and one could not help feeling that the trout must be a gallant fellow indeed to take a chance with anything artificial, considering the horrible distortions of natural objects.

* * *

IN those far-off Victorian days, when Kipling wrote the lines which end with "And the epitaph drear: 'a Fool lies here who tried to hustle the East,'" the suggestion that the Orient generally was slow to move and loath to adopt modern improvements was based on a solid foundation of truth, but I am doubtful if the same could be said to-day. The internal combustion engine, in the form of the car and the lorry, seems to have been the thin end of the wedge which opened up the East for Western inventions. To-day, even in the isolated oases of Arabia and Libya, the wireless set is a recognised feature in the *qawaks* (coffee shops), the sewing machine is firmly established in the harems and every village tailor's shop, and modern pumping plants operate at important wells. In the Nile Valley, incidentally, there is a marked preference for the horizontal type engine as opposed to the vertical, the argument being—and it is so sound I cannot think of an answer to it—that an engine, which has to kick one leg all day long, gets less tired, if it does it lying on its back, than if it has to stand up.

Over the question of modern methods of agriculture, new fruits and vegetables, and improved strains of livestock, the East even now is slow to follow Occidental ideas and, this being the case, I have never been able to understand why, way back in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, when the contact with Europe was far less than it is to-day, consisting probably of one ship filled with buccaneering commercial travellers a year, three things which emanated from America in the first place established themselves firmly all over the Orient. The most popular of these is tobacco, and I know that this was first introduced from Virginia to the Eastern Hemisphere by Sir Walter Raleigh *circa* 1600, as my grandmother told me when I was a little boy how Raleigh's house-parlourmaid had thrown a bucket of water over him when she found him smoking in his study. I gather that my grandmother thought the house-parlourmaid was quite right in her action, and that this was the correct treatment for anyone found smoking in the house. In a little over a hundred years—a very short period for the East—pipe-smoking was as popular among the Arabs as was coffee-drinking, and in very conservative Siam, which tried to shut itself off from the Orient, cigar-smoking became so general that even the women of the harems were usually to be seen with a cheroot worn Winston-fashion.

* * *

THE two other importations from the American Continent which were instantly welcomed in the Orient are the turkey and the Muscovy duck, and both these birds will be found in such numbers in every isolated village of the Middle East that, when one knows how extremely conservative the Arab is about new cultivations and Western livestock, it is extremely difficult to realise that these birds are not indigenous to the land. One can understand the popularity of the turkey, a bird which yields from twelve to twenty pounds of first-class white meat in about nine months and is seldom sick or sorry in a warm, dry climate, but it is not so easy to see the good points of the Muscovy duck, or wherein his charms lie. He seems very uncertain about them himself, seeing that he always speaks about them in an apologetic hushed whisper.

# RUSSIA'S NEW FIVE-YEAR PLAN FOR AGRICULTURE

By SIR E. JOHN RUSSELL

THE U.S.S.R. is *par excellence* the land of planning. Nowhere else has the planning body sufficient courage to publish its targets five years ahead, or sufficient authority to ensure that the plan shall be duly executed. The first Five-Year Plan started in 1927, and the latest was adopted by the Supreme Soviet at its session on March 18, 1946. It sets out the targets for 1950, but not, however, for the intervening years. It covers the whole range of Soviet activity, agricultural, industrial and social or cultural, but I shall deal only with the agricultural part.

The declared object of the Plan is "to rehabilitate the devastated regions of the country, to recover the pre-war level in industry and agriculture, and then considerably to surpass that level." It is laid down that the total farm produce of 1950 shall be "27 per cent. above the 1940 figure," but the details given do not show how that figure is reached or what it means.

The total area sown to all crops in 1950 is to be 158·4 million ha.[1] as compared with 151 *million ha. in 1940; the Plan for 1941 had been* 157 million ha., but it seems unlikely that this figure was actually reached; even at the end of the third year the rate of fulfilment was somewhat too slow. The sown area had been steadily increasing since agriculture settled down after the stormy years of the Revolution and its succeeding troubles. In 1929 it had been 118 million ha. only, but for the next ten years it increased on the average by nearly 2 million ha. per annum, a rise which was about paralleled by the rise in population; then by 1940 it sharply increased by 14 million ha. corresponding with the large additions of territory resulting from the war. Worked out per head of population, however, the sown area still stands at about 1·8 acres per head as it did in 1937 and in 1913.

The present Five-Year Plan is therefore not directly comparable with the first two Plans, but only with the Plan for 1941. With this there is a close agreement in regard to areas; they are, in millions of ha. :—

| | *Total sown.* | *Grain.* | *Industrial crops.* | *Market garden crops.* | *Fodder crops.* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Plan for 1941 ... | 157 | 111 | 12·0 | 11·4 | 22·5 |
| Plan for 1950 ... | 158·4 | 105·7 | 11·8 | 12·4 | 28·3 |

There is a fall of just over 5 million ha. of grain and a somewhat greater rise in area of fodder crops.

These two changes have long been proceeding in Russian agriculture. The proportion of sown land under grain has long been falling; in 1913 it had been 90 per cent.; by 1938 it was 75 per cent.; and for the 1950 Plan it is to be 67 per cent. only. The proportions under technical and market garden crops remain unchanged at about 8 per cent. each—at which they stood in 1933. The great change will be in the area under fodder crops; in 1913 they had formed only 2 per cent., while in the 1950 Plan they are to be 18 per cent. of the sown area. This is perhaps the most important development in Russian agriculture in recent years. The usual fodder crops are grasses, clover, and lucerne. These are used green or as hay or silage. There are also root crops.

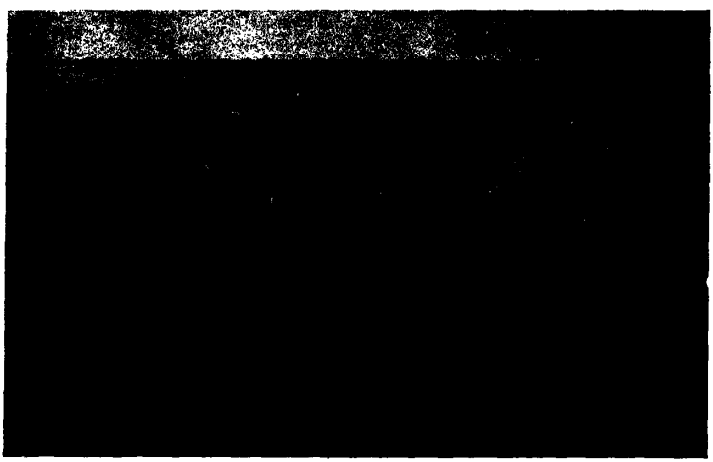
The extension of these fodder crops has meant, of course, that rotations are being more commonly adopted. This has long been advocated by the Russian agricultural scientists and especially by the late Professor Williams, who taught Russian farmers the virtues of grass in the rotation. The agricultural scientists expect the process to go still further. At the Saratov Experiment Station, for example, a nine-year shift is practised, with three years in lucerne and *only four, i.e. 45 per cent. of the area, in grain.*

For the 1950 Plan the figures correspond closely to a six-field system, four in grain, one in fodder crops and one divided equally between market garden and industrial crops. These figures are for the U.S.S.R. as a whole; they are, however, about the same for both the Russian Federation (R.S.F.S.R.) and the Ukraine, which between them contain 82 per cent. of the entire sown area.

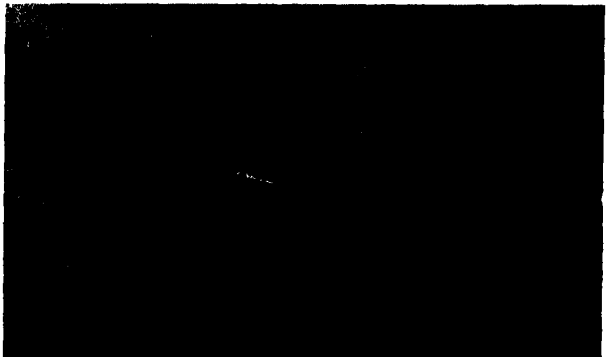
It is expected that the total production of grain will increase to a greater extent than the area. The Plan prescribes an average grain yield of 9·6 cwt. per acre (12 centners. per ha.). This is not impossible for the U.S.S.R.; actually it was almost attained in 1937, the best harvest for many years. More usually the yields have been of the order of 7 or 8 cwt. per acre, but much depends on the snow and its melting, on proper rainfall and absence of scorching winds in July.

The great increase in area of fodder crops, and the improvement of the natural pastures by phosphates ordered in the Plan, are not accompanied by a corresponding increase in the numbers of livestock. In spite of the animals brought in by the newly-acquired territories, the Plan for 1950 does not envisage any great advance on the 1938 figures in Stalin's Report for 1939: (Numbers in millions)

| | *Cattle.* | *Sheep & Goats.* | *Pigs.* | *Horses.* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1938 ... | 63·2 | 102·5 | 30·6 | 17·5 |
| Plan for 1950 | 65·3 | 121·5 | 31·3 | 15·3 |



PREPARING THE SOIL ON THE STALIN COLLECTIVE FARM NEAR KHERSON IN THE UKRAINE. One of those devastated by the Germans and now returning to full productivity



SOWING WHEAT ON THE KOMMUNA COLLECTIVE FARM IN THE ASHKHABAD DISTRICT OF SOVIET TURKMENISTAN

[1] 1 hectare = 2·47 acres. Those who prefer to think in acres can make an approximate mental calculation by [illegible]

MEN AND WOMEN WORKING TOGETHER DURING THE THRESHING OF THE RYE HARVEST ON THE KRASNY PUTILOVETZ COLLECTIVE FARM AT KURSK

One reason for the small difference may be the great destruction of animals by the Germans, which must take some time to recover. As elsewhere, the horses are falling in number; in 1916 there were 35·8 millions of them.

In consequence of the additional supplies of fodder crops without a corresponding increase in animal population the animals can be made more productive. The Plan decrees that the average yield of milk per cow shall be raised 67 per cent. above that of 1945 (though it is not stated what the average yield was then),[2] and that the fattening of cattle before slaughter shall be extensively practised.

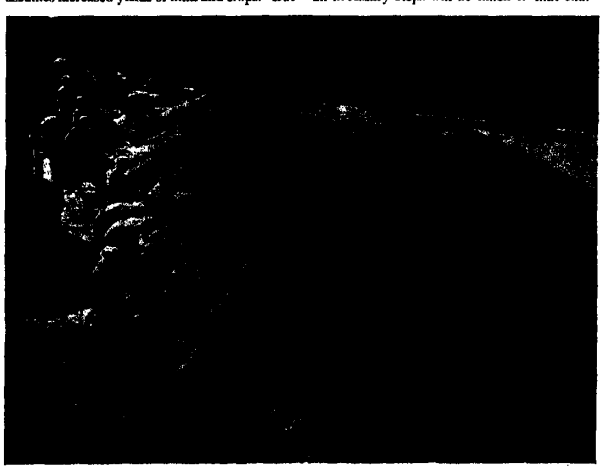
The Plan also deals with the position of the collective farms. By 1950 they are to have 80 per cent. of the sown land (omitting the three Baltic States and Moldavia, for which no figures for collective farms are given), 90 per cent. of the industrial crops, 86 per cent. of the grain, 75 per cent. of the fodder crops, but only 43 per cent. of the market garden and melon crops. The rest is largely in the hands of the State farms, and individual and group allotments run by factory and office workers. The collective farms tend to capture the grain and industrial crops, for which they are well suited, while State farms near the big cities tend to go in for dairying and market garden crops. The collective farms are to have nearly 60 per cent. of the sheep, but only about 40 per cent. of the pigs and cattle, which, however, have long been largely owned by the peasants themselves.

Considerable technical advances have been made with the industrial crops—sugar-beet, cotton, flax, etc. By 1950 the average yield of sugar-beet is to be 7½ tons per acre; this figure is high; in the record season of 1937, the Ukraine, the chief sugar-beet region of the U.S.S.R., had an average yield of 6·9 tons per acre. The yield of flax fibre is to be 3·2 cwt. per acre; the length of the fibre is to be improved.

Mechanisation is to be improved and, for the cultivation of the 158 million ha. of sown land (395 million acres) in the five years 1946-50, the Machine and Tractor Stations are to be re-equipped and 325,000 "tractors and agricultural machines" are to be delivered to the farms.

Figures are also given for the quantities of meat, butter, sugar and fish to be produced in 1950. They are, in millions of tons, 2·39 of sugar, 1·28 of meat, 0·27 of butter, and 2·19 of fish. Assuming, as seems probable, a population of 210 millions in 1950, these quantities work out per head per annum at approximately 25 lb. of sugar, 13½ lb. meat, nearly 3 lb. butter and 23 lb. fish. The figures for sugar, butter and fish resemble those for consumption in 1937-8, but the meat figure is incomplete because it presumably takes no account of the peasants' own animals slaughtered for their own consumption.

The Plan is bold and courageous, and assumes increased yields of milk and crops. But the most strenuous efforts will certainly be made to carry it through. The Government has at its command vast powers of "direction" and the most wonderful propaganda machinery in the world. From early school-days the children are brought up in a fervent spirit of glowing patriotism and in the firm belief that theirs is the most progressive country in the world. And if, even after all these years, the Plan still finds it necessary to insist that "Greater discipline shall be exercised by the collective farms in discharging their obligations to the State in respect to delivery of farm produce," we may be sure that all necessary steps will be taken to that end.



THE KUBAN PLAINS IN THE SOUTH OF THE U.S.S.R. ARE AMONG THE WORLD'S RICHEST AGRICULTURAL REGIONS. The large-scale operations produce results such as this mound of grain which dwarfs the women workers engaged in drying it

[2] In 1938 it was 240 gallons per cow. In the Plan for 1937 it was to have been 300 gallons. Yields are much lower than ours owing to natural as well as other causes.

# MEMORIES OF THE HORSE-DRAWN STEAMER

By DAVID GREEN

ABOVE a fire-station in the city of Oxford there is a large room, known as the Club Room, that is apt to spring surprises. Look in there of an evening for a game of billiards, for instance, when the room is crowded. Suddenly a loud bell over the door may start ringing and in a matter of seconds you will find yourself alone, your match unfinished, your opponent gone.

Abandoning your cue, you may take a look at the walls of the room—what you can see of them, for they are hung to the ceiling with pictures and framed photographs (seventy-one in all), and there would doubtless be more were it not for a large, glass-fronted corner cupboard which appears to contain nothing but silver challenge cups. Look again and you see on the top shelf a massive dog-collar studded with brass and with the following jingle carefully engraved:

*Stop me not when on the jog,*
*For I am "Joe," the Fireman's Dog.*

"Who remembers Joe?" I asked of the company there one day. Everyone was most helpful. Joe had carried messages, said one; ah and roused the horses, added another. Yes, and the firemen, too, he shouldn't wonder, laughed a third. But, oh no, none of them had known the dog; that was long, long ago. The man I wanted, they all agreed, was Charlie Archer. And where would I find him? Down in the boat-builder's workshop beside Folly Bridge.

The upper room where Charlie Archer—a white-haired craftsman with alert blue eyes—was varnishing a punt was very different from his former haunt, the historic Club Room. Instead of billiards-table—punts on trestles, and towering piles of lifebelts; instead of pictures—large cobwebbed windows overlooking a jetty where, at that moment, an undergraduate in shorts was climbing into his single-sculler.

"Built every class of boat on the river," admitted the ex-fireman, "yes, including the 'varsity."

"And what kind of wood for that?" I asked.

"Cedar."

"And for skiffs?"

"Mahogany. Same for the sides of a punt; yellow pine for the bottom. Oars are spruce, but of course that's a skilled job on its own."

Then I remembered what I had come for; and yes, he recollected Joe well. "All the old Oxford people did," but, oh dear no, the dog had never done anything so useful as to rouse horses or carry messages. "Barking his bloomin' head off at the horses" was more in Joe's line and getting to a fire even if it meant breaking a chain and leaping a stable door. A powerful beast of the Alsatian type, there seems no doubt of his popularity and fame as an Oxford character, but for the urgent nature of his business, implied by the legend on his collar, there appears to have been no foundation.

It was only when the boat-builder began talking of himself that I realised what a much more interesting story than Joe's I had chanced on.

"Never say you joined before you were twenty," the Chief Officer had cautioned him in 1890 when as a lad of eighteen, he joined the Oxford Volunteer Fire Brigade (founded 1870). From the start the new recruit did well. "But then," he added, "I was silly and went courting instead of turning up to drills." Even so, he managed to win the Chief Officer's Cup!

"But going to a fire," he went on with a chuckle, "we called that a holiday. You see, we were all independent of everybody. We all had our jobs and downed tools at a moment's notice. There was myself, a boat-builder. Another volunteer was a wine merchant, another a mason, and so on. I might be varnishing a boat like this when I'd hear the bell and dash out. The Game Cock, as our 'steamer' was called, wouldn't stop for us, of course, but the brake-men'd slow the horses down as they came to the bridge and I'd make a dash for the back and climb over the top. It was a tricky business.

"The 'steamer' might leave the station with only two men aboard, but by the time we reached the job we might have seven or eight. We never lacked volunteers, and whenever there was a job they were all dead keen to go. I don't think many towns could boast of that."

"How many horses did you use?"

"Two in the town, four for a job out in the country. You can still see the hooks in the appliance-room ceiling where the harness hung, though with the hose-tender-escape the collars hung from the ladders. All you had to do, on the alarm, was let the things drop on to the horses and join the snap-hooks underneath."

"Did the horses get excited?"

"No, I wouldn't have said so. They got used to it, you see, and anyway they never saw much of the fire. We soon had them out of the shafts when we arrived, so as we could manage handle the pump just where we wanted it."

I wondered if there had been accidents. "Yes," he said, putting the finishing touches to the punt, "there was that time at the toll-bridge, on our way to a biggish job at the blanket factory."

"What happened then?"

"Well, we raced across the bridge. It was night-time, and the toll-gate was shut. There were six of us aboard, and we all blew our whistles but nothing happened. No one opened the gate, and as we couldn't pull up in time the leading horse went down the steps almost into the toll-house, while the other three piled up against the gate with me on top of them. We were all properly muddled up with bloomin' horses, but we soon sorted ourselves out, only to find we none of us had the money to pay the toll. Still, they let us through at last, and we were there at the blanket factory all night. The toll had delayed us, of course, but we stopped the fire from spreading."

Indeed, a dash out into the country on a horse-drawn engine seems always to have been particularly hazardous. "There was that farm job at Islip, for instance," as Mr. Archer went on to tell me, "on Christmas Eve. We soon put that out from the pond and made for home. But it was still snowing so heavy we couldn't see our way. The hose-van toppled into the ditch and the pump after it. I thought at one time we'd be there for our Christmas dinner."

No wonder the Brigade gave notice, in 1895, that they "might possibly be compelled to confine their services to the preservation of the City alone, and absolutely decline going to any fire in the country, more especially as these country fires are so much more damaging to the plant than any fire in the City."

Even within the city boundaries, however, and even at such a decorous function as a Jubilee demonstration in the parks (May, 1887), horses were apt to let one down. On that occasion the greys drawing the University Press's brakeless manual broke away during the gallop past and dashed into the grandstand containing Prince and Princess Christian of Denmark. No one was hurt. The demonstration, by the way, drew a thousand firemen *and their appliances* from no fewer than eighty brigades in all parts of the country. One can only hope that they left adequate cover for the home town before setting out!

Nor did the old-timers—the men of Oxford who had fought the city's fires with privately owned engines before 1870—go unrepresented. Their delegation consisted of one very old man in full uniform: blue tunic with silver buttons the size of half-crowns, white duck trousers, and a tall beaver hat.

One more question occurred to me. How did they get the fire going to work the steamer? (It is said that the fire-engine at full steam was often mistaken for the fire itself, so black and dense was its smoke.) "We laid the fire upside down," was the surprising answer, "coal first,

THE GALLOP PAST OF THE OXFORD FIRE BRIGADE AT THE JUBILEE DEMONSTRATION ON MAY 30, 1887

A contemporary water-colour presented to the Brigade by Thomas Green, the Superintendent

THE COLLAR OF JOE, THE FIREMAN'S DOG, preserved in a room above an Oxford fire-station

then wood, and shavings on top Then, when we were within about a hundred yards of the job, we just put a match to our fire and, thanks to the strong draught as we went along, by the time we'd got there and unshipped the hose, the pressure'd be up ready for pumping"

I thanked the boat-builder and walked back to the fire-station where, in the Club Room, I looked at some of the seventy-one pictures and faded photographs with a new interest I even dug out a book, a small, dull-looking red book, compiled and published in 1894 by one Alderman Green, an ironmonger, who was then the energetic and versatile Captain of the Brigade. And what a comprehensive book this *Fires in Oxford* is!

Beginning with the year 979, when the Danes embarked on their habit-forming practice of burning Oxford, it records the martyrdom of Latimer, Ridley and Cranmer "just below and opposite the lodging of the Master of Balliol" and goes on to quote from the diary of Thomas Hearne on the effects in Oxford of the Fire of London (sixty-four miles away) —

ANOTHER PICTURE OF AN INCIDENT AT THE JUBILEE DEMONSTRATION ENTITLED: THE PROCESSION IN THE HIGH STREET

1666 Sept 2—A lamentable fier broke out in London in the morning being Sunday The wind being eastward blew clouds of smoak over Oxon the next day and chiefly Tuesday and the sunshine was much darkned The same night also the moone was much darkened by clouds of smoak and looked reddish The fier or flame made a noise like the waves of the sea The city by this fier and the pest much impoverished discontented afflicted cast downe

The fier did soe much affrighten the nation that all townes stood upon their owne defence day and night and particularly Oxon every one being soe suspicious that noe sorry fellow or woman could pass but they examined him noe gun or squib could goe off but they thought it a fatale blow

On the fast day viz Sept 5th which was 3 dayes after the fier began, a butcher driving certaine oxen over Carfax cried to his beasts when he was under the window hup! hup! —which some taking for 'Fier! run out of the church and all the rest after with the semblance of death in their faces som saying they smelled smoak, others pitch etc and could not be reconciled to their error a great while

No fire-engine is mentioned until 1733, and in 1778 after a fire at Queen's College it is recorded that

two Villains were committed to our Castle detected in pilfering during the confusion and another was severely ducked in the street where the water was dammed up to supply the engines

There is also a pleasant entry for

1820 Jan 10 A considerable part of old Magdalen Hall was burnt down an incident (as there was no loss of life) no one lamented as it was the first step towards its removal The members of the adjoining college (Magdalen) certainly did not bewail its loss It was like all such college fires, the result of carelessness in the putting out or rather the not putting out of candles The fire broke out in the night and was first observed by the guard of a passing mail coach, who gave the alarm It was said that one gentleman having been pulled out of bed as the flames were bursting into his room, rushed back crying For God's sake let me save my Aristotle!

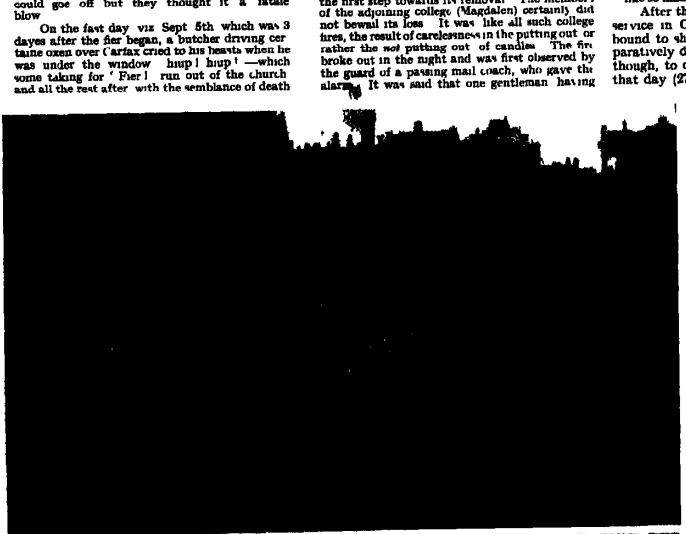
But the penultimate entry is perhaps the most lively of all —

1870 May 10 —About 11 p m on Tuesday a pane of glass was taken out of one of the windows of the Library at Christ Church and someone entered through the opening and seized four marble busts of former benefactors by Roubiliac, Woolner, etc including one of Dean Gaisford and a marble statue of Venus and passed them through the broken pane of glass to others outside in Peckwater Quadrangle they were surrounded with faggots and mats and burnt until they became like so many pieces of slaked lime

After that there follows a history of the fire service in Oxford which of course, is almost bound to show an anti-climax and make comparatively dull reading It is of some interest, though, to compare the number of fire calls of that day (27 in 1894) with that of the present (163 in 1945)—although, of course, one must take into account the enormous increase in buildings and population—and also the relative time taken to turn out to a fire in the days of the horse-drawn steamer, seven to ten minutes or even longer, to-day, half a minute to a minute

Moreover, there are two things at least which the present crews share with their volunteer predecessors what Captain Green referred to as "the duty of protecting from fire the treasures of literature and art contained in our chief seat of learning" (steady there, Cambridge!) and, secondly, their admirable motto, carved over the fire-station door *Semper paratus semper volens* (Always ready, always willing)

On the other hand, some of the customs of those more leisurely days might, in the opinion of one temporary fireman at least, well be revived The post-fire breakfast, for example "You see, we believed in mixing work with pleasure," as an ex-chief officer explained to me, "and after a country job we always adjourned to the nearest pub and had a good breakfast, no matter what time of day it was" What an excellent idea!



THE OXFORD VOLUNTEER FIRE BRIGADE ON PARADE FOR INSPECTION BEFORE THE START OF A COMPETITION HELD ON JULY 10, 1888

# OLD ENGLISH SAMPLERS—II

By G. BERNARD HUGHES

LATE 17th-century samplers tended to become exercises in proficiency and records of attainment rather than repertoires of design for future use. As samplery became more and more a record of the worker's skill, name and date were sometimes worked in an obscure corner. Then, as the marking of household linen became fashionable, single plain alphabets and numerals, crudely designed and badly drawn, were worked between the band patterns, a text or proverb often being added.

It is not unusual to find samplers with half the patterns facing towards one end and half towards the other. No plausible explanation has been found for this queer arrangement. Some samplers have the design equally perfect on both sides of the linen. Seventeenth-century samplers are always in excellent condition, except perhaps for a slight loss of brightness, for the linen background has proved no attraction to moths.

Samplers, strangely enough, were not influenced by the change in embroidery styles which took place during the Orange régime. But the early years of Queen Anne's reign saw a deterioration in workmanship and the beginning of the slow change in the sampler's shape, as the square gradually took the place of the long, narrow panel. Silk thread, of more vivid hue than formerly, was mainly used in the embroidery, metal thread entirely disappearing and with it raised and padded work.

The border appeared about 1700 as a decorative motif around the entire sampler. The early borders consisted of straggling naturalistic flowers and fruit worked in satin stitch or in long-and-short stitch. These flowery edgings were superseded in about 1720 by bolder, narrower wavy stem borders of cross-stitch interspersed with small, conventionalised blossoms, the earliest being pinks and honeysuckles. Not until about 1730 did the border become a regular feature. The wavy stem in a bold form was characteristic until early in the nineteenth century.

The early borders enclosed devices scattered over the body of the sampler which, while becoming shorter, increased in width, thus making spacing easier. Birds of remarkable plumage, animals of terrible mien and castles supported by flying buttresses now decorated the sampler. Men and women, hearts and crowns, flowers in bunches and in pots were worked in rigid symmetry but in fine confusion in cross-stitch. A band of formal garden landscape often appeared across square samplers after the accession of George III, sometimes in the middle of the design, sometimes at the bottom. Rows of coronets depicting various ranks of the peerage were popular until 1790.

The rise of Methodism and publication of the *Wesley Hymn Book* in 1736 gave impetus to verses, and samplers began to be less examplars of stitches and more and more proof of learning and diligence. Late in the century samplery became an educational task in schools as a record of youthful achievement and as a means of establishing moral precepts in young minds. The name and age of the worker were always added. One ten-year-old scholar, Elizabeth Clements of St. Clement's Charity School, ends her tediously worked sampler with the pathetic couplet:

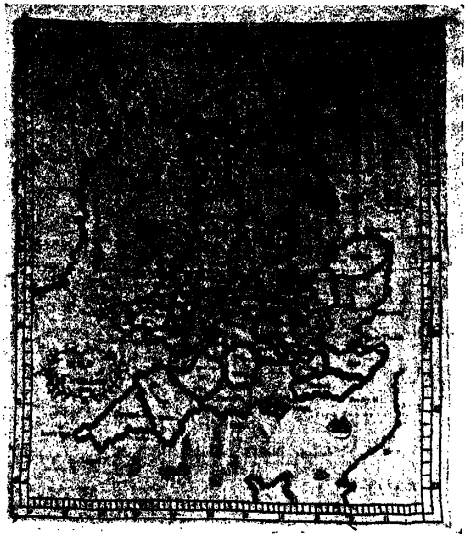
> This I have done, I thank my God,
> Without correction of the rod.

Similarity of surname and school suggest that the child was a foundling.

Texts, mottoes and lugubrious rhymes now occupied a considerable area of the sampler. The more morbid the sentiment, the later in the century was it worked. Mortuary samplers embroidered with dismally pious verses dealing with the imminence of death and embellished with willows, urns, tombs and cherubs were considered suitable exercises for girls not yet in their teens.

Lettering was usually worked in cross-stitch so executed that the stitches formed a neat little square on the wrong side of the material. Eyelet or bird's-eye stitch was used on others, this being worked by piercing a series of tiny holes in the linen and whipping their sides over. Other alphabets were worked in flat satin stitch. The type of lettering used is a guide to date; the more artistic styles belong to the early square samplers. Late in the century alphabets of varying sizes and styles were often introduced into a single sampler, being admirably designed and worked in brightly coloured silks and wools.

A deep yellow linen was used for the majority of 18th-century samplers from 1722 until 1740, when a worsted cloth called tammy-cloth or sampler-cloth came into vogue, to be used extensively until about 1825. Tammy-cloth was evenly spun, warp and weft each having a strong twist; the weft was a little less twisted than the warp so as to enter the warp more easily. The tiny squares produced were ideal for the silk threads used in samplery. The cloth was chiefly made at

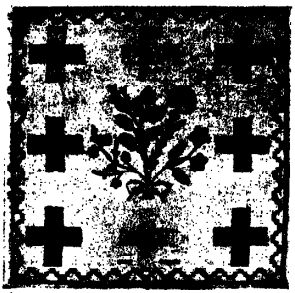


1.—AN EARLY MAP SAMPLER WORKED IN COLOURED SILK ON SARSENET BY A GIRL AGED 10 IN 1780
Possibly she had some association with the Saltworks marked in Norfolk
*Victoria and Albert Museum*

(*Left*)
2.—A FOUR-COMPARTMENT SAMPLER EMBROIDERED WITH COLOURED SILKS ON TAMMY-CLOTH BY A GIRL OF NINE IN 1826

(*Right*)
3.—SQUARE SAMPLER WITH WAVY STEM BORDER COMPRISING TULIPS AND ROSES WORKED IN COLOURED WOOLS ON WOOLLEN CANVAS BY A CHILD OF TEN, 1821
*National Museum of Wales*

4.—DETAIL OF SAMPLER IN WOOL SHOWING A HOUSE WITH FENCED GARDEN AND FLOWER BEDS. 1841
*National Museum of Wales*



5.—DARNING IN PLAIN DAMASK PATTERNS SURROUNDS DARNED FLOWERS. 1802

Coventry and was world-famed for its lustrous finish. Whereas the linen samplers have outlived generations, however, moths have wrought havoc with samplers worked on tammy-cloth. About 1770, woollen thread replaced silk in the schools because it was cheaper. This was worked on a coarse kind of glazed muslin called tiffany.

The publication of ladies' magazines at this period containing patterns of embroidery work gave a filip to samplery by adults.

Samplers, consisting only of an embroidered map upon which the worker's town or village was displayed in outstandingly large letters, were worked from 1770 until 1840. It is this town and the presence of a signature which technically distinguish a map sampler from a needlework picture. The map—generally of England and Wales, although Scotland, Ireland, Spain and North America are found—is worked either in black thread or in various colours for distinguishing the counties.

At first the counties were outlined with two rows of chain- or stem-stitch in different coloured silks, the names of the places being worked in black sewing-silk. From about 1800 outlines and names were worked in cross-stitch. The older maps were worked on white satin or sarsenet, later grounds usually being of fine canvas or tammy-cloth; linen or tiffany was used but seldom. During the last decade of the eighteenth century maps were printed on white satin as an aid to the needlewoman.

Samplers worked in darning stitches on tiffany belong to the Eastern Counties and were made during the final quarter of the eighteenth century. The fine darning is generally in the form of a cross, sometimes carried over a square hole cut from the material. The darn is occasionally "invisible," done in threads of the same colour as the ground, but small diapers in coloured silks are not unusual. Samplers with several squares darned over in coloured silks, with floral sprays worked in the intervening spaces, are very attractive; so, too, are darning patterns arranged around a vase, basket or bunch of flowers.

For ten years or so at the end of the eighteenth century, samplers became quite small, often being less than five inches square.

Nineteenth-century samplers, still frequently the work of young children, were made more or less to an established formula, a house or some other pictorial design occupying the centre, surrounded by detached devices placed symmetrically. The specimen in Fig. 8, undated but about 1825, combines two houses with poetic reference to earthly and heavenly abodes. This method produced a pleasing style but permitted little originality of expression. A dictionary dated 1825 defines a sampler as "a marking Alphabet wrought by girls at school." Tuer, in his *History of the Horn-book*, is of the opinion that samplers served the purpose of a horn-book to several generations of little girls. Alphabets in capitals followed by a prayer are certainly similar to those of the horn-book, but they lack the cross before the alphabets. A teaching manual of 1821 lays down specific rules for the working of samplers in certain elementary schools; patterns were, of course, individual.

From about 1820 samplers often acted as a sort of family tree. When the piece was finished it was the custom to embroider the initials of relatives in spare spaces, the paternal side first. Initials of the dead were worked in black worsted surmounted by a cross or a crown. Designs as a whole were inferior to those of the previous century. They included houses and gardens, conventionalised animals and birds on floral sprays, verses balanced to right and left with pots of flowers, the whole being enclosed in a floral or strawberry border. They display little variety in colour and stitchery, the cross-stitch being used almost to the exclusion of others and becoming known as the sampler-stitch. Horizontal compartments separated by various zig-zag or straight stripes were popular from about 1820.

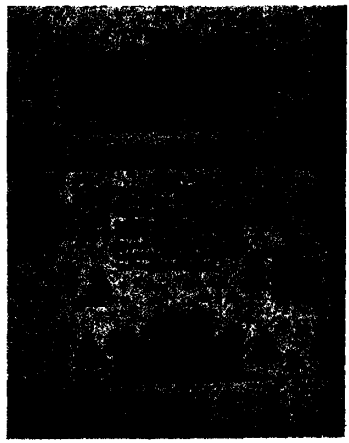
6.—THREE-COMPARTMENT SAMPLER WORKED IN SILKS ON TIFFANY. Eighteenth Century

From about 1825 samplers were worked on a coarse, unbleached linen resembling fine canvas. Embroidery was done with red, green and blue wools, brighter in colour than the earlier wools and silks. With the advent of the Berlin printed patterns for cross-stitch, and Berlin wool in which to work them, early in the 1850s, the making of collectable samplers ceased. In the Board schools later in the century crude samplers were worked on mosaic canvas.

Antique samplers are delicate things: sunlight fades them and damp is fatal. Newly-acquired samplers may be fumigated for a week or more in a sealed box containing crushed naphthalene; the powder must not be permitted to touch the fabric. The sampler should then be enclosed in an air-tight frame having waterproof paper pasted on the back.

*The first article on this subject appeared in our issue of July 5.*

7.—ANOTHER THREE-COMPARTMENT SAMPLER WORKED IN 1824



(*Right*) 8.—SAMPLER IN THE COLLECTION OF MRS. PAUL WATERHOUSE. *Circa* 1825

"We have a house above
Not made with mortal hands"

# THE SPELL OF SARUM AND MONA

By E. L. GRANT WATSON

THERE was no iron railing to enclose the temple at Stonehenge when, as a boy, I first saw it, nor were there any of those aerodromes or other military buildings that now, from so close by, dwarf the austere dignity of prehistory with the mere bigness of modern mechanisation. In the early dawn of a June morning, the great stones rose unenclosed from the greensward, or lay recumbent and sunken where they had fallen.

I and my companion had been sleeping in a tent near Amesbury and were then pushing our bicycles along the road to Rolleston, at which village we hoped to find an inn that would give us breakfast. We came with amazement on those ancient stones, which had been erected (how and when, no man can tell) as monuments to a human greatness long lost in the obliterated past. They seemed, at that first meeting, to express little of their human origin, but to have grown as part of Nature in the dawn landscape. Our wonder was not gendered by imaginings or any explorations of fancy into distant ages, but came as an immediate response to that august assembly of rough-hewn rocks that were so inevitably a part of the rolling grandeur of Salisbury Plain.

Having put down our bicycles, we wandered, with but few exclamations of our wonder, over the close-cropped turf among the sheep that were grazing or sheltering under the fallen monoliths. The calm of night had not yet faded, although early sun-rays were making long shadows. The songs of larks, unseen in the pale sky, dropped earthward.

What we could accept of those present moments was sufficient, yet the strange, deep wonder, surviving from an age far different from our own, was not altogether withheld or unrecorded. The dawn of that awakening summer's day was almost in itself sufficient, yet was allied with other distant dawns that these great stones had looked on. Although the earth that I had known and could experience held all my vision, even then, held in some hidden bondage, I touched without conscious knowledge a nerve of the undying body of the past; and this, by a happy accident of race or birth, I could take easily for granted.

Many years later I felt the same deep spell, the same magic, on the island of Anglesey, or Mona, that land of honeysuckle and gorse and stunted oak and grey rocks that jut, time-scarred, from the thin soil. Not only in the relics of graves and temples does the ancient aura linger, but it penetrates in some unaccountable way both earth and air, and speaks even in the flower and in the stone; its secrets are whispered between the sunshine and the turf; it is in the underlying and sustaining rock, and in the waters of the streams, and is wafted again into the air through every leaf of every herb and wind-swept tree. In Anglesey I began to discover, in half-conscious fashion, what had remained wholly unconscious at Stonehenge.

Not from the scattered cromlechs or the stone circles, or from the rough-hewn temples, half-buried in the earth and approached through narrow tunnels, not from these alone, nor from rumours which legend or history has handed down—the tradition of Druid priests, the worship of oak and mistletoe—nor from stories of human sacrifice, nor from any distant imaginings, come intimations of immortality. Fragments of knowledge no doubt contribute to the potent landscape, but these are not so strong as the awareness of the unmeasured and the unknown that lingers in so positive a way.

Within the circle of outlying stones I have rested on the grass-covered bank of a half-buried cromlech, and after listening to the little bumble-bees that buzzed from flower to flower of scabious I have dozed, and have awakened to find myself in part carried out of myself into an unfamiliar region, lying beyond the threshold of fancy. It is not to be described; it can barely be hinted at, since it is not remembered; it has not been experienced, it has lain on the other side of experience, and yet, for moments, has come within hail of experience. It is as fundamental as the sequence of the seasons, it turns with the turning world and follows the sun's course on an unaccountable journey.

The fable of the dying god is one with it; with the blood of sacrifice it is familiar; it rises with the rising sap in spring-time, and falls with the falling seed back into the earth; it is quiescent in darkness, and is resurrected in light. It pertains to human love, and pertains to the passing of love into the ever-changing. It lies beneath the roots of the trees; its alphabet is the germination of the acorn and the mysterious birth of mistletoe. The priestly garments and Druidical liturgies and incantations are the dead husks, shed from the living branch. It is the ecstasy of the dance, and the frenzy of the self-selected sacrifice; it knows the exultation of the elemental ancestors as they claim their victim.

Dazed from that dream among the grass and flowers, the common day has re-asserted its presence, and I have returned with it to the twilight of ordinary understanding. In the western airs of early autumn, the island of the ancient Druids has hidden her secrets under an open face; the gorse buds have crackled as they flung their seeds, and the scabious have bent their heads to the visiting bees.

# HALF A YEAR OF PEACE-TIME RACING

THE end of a Royal Ascot race meeting—even if, as this year, an austerity one—affords an opportunity to look backward at the first half of a racing season and forward to the second half with, possibly, some ideas to carry over until another year. In most ways the early post-war days of this year have been a success, although, without a doubt, the Jockey Club were over-generous in their fixture-list and the attendant crowds at the meetings have been, in many cases, oppressive. The main sensation has been the downfall of last year's leading two-year-olds in this year's classic races.

* * *

Towards the end of 1945 Mr. Freer, the Official Handicapper to the Jockey Club, assessed the merits of the leading youngsters and, in the Free Handicap, apportioned Gulf Stream the top-weight and made Aldis Lamp, Edward Tudor, the filly Neolight, Radiotherapy, Khaled and The Yuveraj to be less than 7 lb. inferior to him. The majority of these had unbeaten certificates; were by Hyperion, which headed the list of winning sires last year; and so, in the betting that took place during the winter, were the favourites for this year's classic races. The Two Thousand Guineas witnessed the first debacle, as in it Sir William Cooke's Happy Knight, a half-brother to Happy Landing by Colombo from Happy Morn, won it more or less as he, or Tommy Weston who rode him, liked from Khaled, Radiotherapy and Gulf Stream in the fourth position. On the strength of this and entirely forgetful of the facts that Colombo's produce rarely get more than a mile and that Happy Knight's front formation was entirely unsuitable for the Epsom gradients, he was made favourite and finished favourite for the first peace-time Derby.

This race, which was run on June 5, witnessed another debacle. Happy Knight was never in it with a chance, and the grey Airborne, the fourth of his hue to win the Blue Riband, won at his ease with Gulf Stream, Radiotherapy—which between-times had won the Newmarket Stakes—and the Northern hope, White Jacket, his nearest attendants.

* * *

Regretful though it is to write it, the colts that we, as racing journalists, looked upon as a vintage-crop in 1945 had developed in 1946 into something analogous to war-time beer. A pity, but there it is and it is no use glossing it over.

On the whole, the fillies are not much better, but in Steady Aim Sir Alfred Butt may prove to have the St. Leger winner and the best of her age. A March-foaled bay daughter of the Derby winner Felstead, from the French-bred mare Quick Arrow, she met with a mishap in training so could not compete for the One Thousand Guineas, which was won by the King's inconsequent filly, Hypericum; but in the Oaks she won readily from Iona, which had been third in the Guineas, and Nelia, with Hypericum in the fourth position. As a typical daughter of her sire she will improve between now and September and is one of the very few of her age which will appreciate the extra distance of the St. Leger course.

The less that is said or written concerning the performance of our older horses in longer distance races the better. At Ascot, it can be truly said, "the Frenchmen came and raced and conquered" as, with the exception of the Gold Vase, which was won by Sir Humphrey de Trafford's three-year-old Look Ahead, they took every big event that mattered and, for the first time in history, were responsible for the colts that finished first, second and third in the Ascot Gold Cup. This has led to all sorts of outbursts in the Press. The downfall of the British thoroughbred and the necessity for the importation of French-bred stallions, even if not eligible for entry in the General Stud Book, has been stressed. Surely it is better to stop this sort of thing and to realise that the equine world, like the human, strikes its bad patches now and then and that it can revive and rejuvenate in Britain without alien aid.

* * *

Proof of this may be forthcoming next year when this year's youngsters reach a classic age. At the moment of writing, Mr. J. A. Dewar undoubtedly owns the best two colts in Tudor Minstrel and Combat, which are respectively by Owen Tudor and Big Game and come from Sansonnet and Commotion. To those of us with memories, these details recall a day at the December Sales of 1923 when the late Lord Dewar bid up to 8,000 guineas to obtain the four-year-old mare Lady Juror from among the lots sold after the death of Lord Manton.

A daughter of that grand old horse Son-in-Law and, like the flying Mumtaz Mahal, from Lady Josephine, she had three races, including the Jockey Club Stakes of £8,057, to her credit, but for all that, in those days, she did not read to be a cheap purchase. She turned out to be one of the best bargains ever bought, however, as from her came eight winners of twenty-eight races worth £26,745 directly. She also produced the sires, like Fair Trial, or dams, like Sansonnet or Commotion's dam, Riot, of further winners and progenitors of winners. One reads and learns the facts concerning Lord Derby's foundation mares, Anchora and Gondolette; of Lord Astor's Conjure, Popinjay and Maid of the Mist; and of Lord Rosebery's Illuminata but, to date, the late Lord Dewar's Lady Juror is rarely mentioned. Maybe next year there will be columns written about her and either her grandson, Tudor Minstrel, or her great grandson, Combat.

ROVERON.

# HENLEY ROYAL REGATTA

*By* G. O. NICKALLS

AN American newspaper correspondent rang me up a few days before last week's Henley Royal Regatta. As two of his countrymen, A. A. Gallagher and J. B. Kelly, had entered for the Diamond Sculls, he wanted to know something about the event.

"When did the first race take place?" he asked. "In 1844," I replied. This information was greeted with a long, appreciative whistle. "And they've been competed for every year since?" he queried. "With the exception of the gaps created by two world wars, they have."

He asked for a description of the trophy. I read him the contemporary account from *Bell's Life*. "The sculls are models of about six inches in length, formed of frosted and bright silver, the handles and fillet gold, the sculls crossed and corded gold, the cord appearing in the centre of a wreath of green enamel set with rubies and brilliants and tied with gold, the ends of the tie sustaining a brilliant drop."

This whetted his curiosity. "Can you give me an idea of their value?" he asked. Now frankly, beyond their being the most coveted prize of our rowing world, demanding of the winner qualities of skill, courage and quick decision, it had never occurred to me that they were worth anything at all. Just an unimportant piece of early Victorian fia-fia; that, I think, would describe the trophy, yet people come from the other side of the world in the hope of winning it.

The Diamonds, however, are not the oldest Henley event. For when the Regatta was instituted in 1839 with the aim "of producing the most beneficial results to the town" and of being "a source of amusement and gratification to the neighbourhood and the public in general," it was agreed that a silver cup, value 100 guineas, to be called the Henley Grand Challenge Cup, be rowed for annually by amateur crews in eight-oared boats.

Of that first race, which attracted four entries and was won by Trinity College, Cambridge, it is recorded:

"The Etonian Club were dressed in white guernseys with pale-blue facings, rosette sky-blue. Brasenose had blue-striped guernseys, blue cap with gold tassel, rosette yellow, purple and crimson. Wadham wore white guernseys with narrow blue stripes, dark-blue cap with light-blue velvet band, and light-blue scarf; and Trinity College were attired in blue-striped guernseys, rosette French blue."

Yes, in those days they certainly had an idea of how to make a show of it. Those ancient crews undoubtedly and intentionally provided a rich, visual feast of colour and cohesion.

This may seem curious to us to-day, though it is not so surprising when we realise that some time before our forefathers had appreciated the possibilities of racing in boats, they had come to the conclusion that a combination of oarsmen, boats and water offered unrivalled opportunities for gay gala and colourful spectacle. Perhaps the most obvious illustration of this fact lies in the annual Procession of Boats at Eton on the fourth of June.

Since those days, oarsmen's attire has become increasingly "utility," although Henley regulations still require that an oarsman or sculler shall be clothed "from the knee to the elbow." This must seem pure Victorian prudery to competitors from other parts of the world who feel more at home in abbreviated trunks and scanty singlets. When rowing on Lake Ontario many years ago, I remember a local newspaper remarking on the modesty of our attire. Compared with our shorts and zephyrs they remarked that our Canadian pals "looked like débutantes at a Cuban ball."

If, however, the costume of the competitors has grown more prosaic with the passing of time, the fashions of the spectators shows no tendency in that direction. Henley is probably the only function where the brilliant plumage of the male vies with that of the female. And how gladly does the male grasp the opportunity! Just think of what he can get away with at Henley! Headgear of exquisite glory—caps of every blue, panamas and boaters with the most fetching ribbons; blazers and coats of many colours; trousers with eccentric striping; not to mention the colour-clashing pandemonium he can attain with the aid of a few carefully-chosen socks, ties and scarves.

How much I enjoyed a recently-published clerihew which ran:

Spats
Are very seldom seen with straw hats
Not even at a
Regatta.

However, quite apart from all the rather affectionate fun one can poke at Henley Regatta, it is most definitely a part of our English scene which establishes a wonderfully firm hold in the affections of competitors and spectators alike. Oarsmen from overseas, long after their active racing days are over, return time and again to this place of aquatic rivalry. Captains of ocean-going liners have been urged "to get a move on," because an old Blue, homeward-bound, counts his arrival at Henley on the first day of the Regatta as a matter of life and death. Without doubt, that one mile, five hundred and seventy yards of shimmering water, piled and boomed its entire length on either side and set in one of the loveliest and most lush valleys of our country, holds magic that is all its own.

Our Royal Family has maintained in the event an interest which began in 1851, the year in which the Prince Consort became a patron and which has been exemplified this year by the support of Princess Elizabeth.

This year, excepting the Centenary Regatta of 1939, there was the greatest number of entries on record. This is remarkable when one considers how short a time clubs have had since the war in which to get going again: how hard to come by is suitable raw material for the making of oars and boats; and how cruel and crushing is the purchase-tax which the Chancellor still sees fit to impose on this very blameless sport. As someone wrote to me recently, "Can't he be made to realise that racing boats are not pleasure boats?"

Foreign entries, headed by the Swiss eight from Zurich, were encouragingly plentiful. There were entries for the Pairs, the Double Sculls and the Diamonds from Latin America, while in this latter event competitors from the U.S.A., Australia, Norway and France took part.

That Henley is moving with the times was evident, not only from the introduction into the programme of two new events—the Princess Elizabeth cup, an eight-oared event open only to schools, and a Double Sculls race—but from the installation of an elaborate system of local broadcasting, whereby the people in the enclosures heard through loudspeakers (sufficiently muted so as not to imperil the amenities) the progress of the races, broadcast from three selected sites on the bank.

THE HENLEY COURSE: "ONE MILE FIVE HUNDRED AND SEVENTY YARDS OF SHIMMERING WATER . . . HOLDS MAGIC THAT IS ALL ITS OWN."

# MIDDLETON PARK, OXFORDSHIRE—II

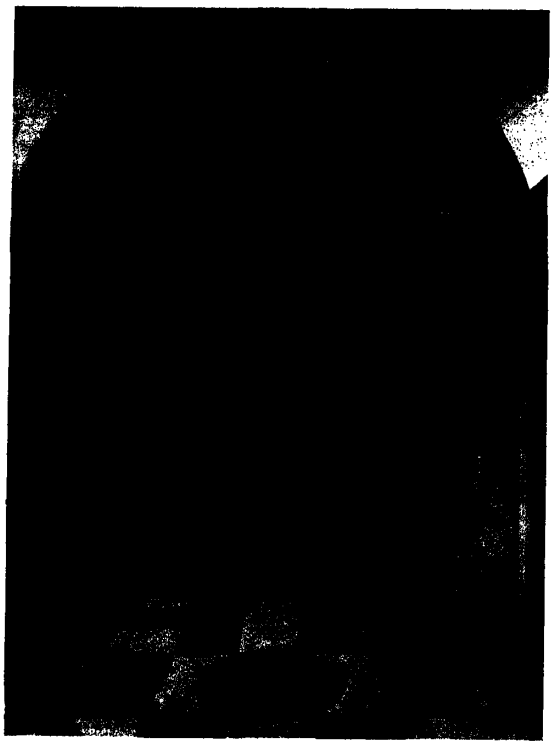
## THE PROPERTY OF MR. A. C. J. WALL

*Begun in 1934 and completed in 1938 for the Earl of Jersey from designs by Sir Edwin Lutyens and Mr. Robert Lutyens, the house represents an extraordinarily successful synthesis of the classical tradition with the latest technical refinements.*

By CHRISTOPHER HUSSEY

1.—THE ENTRANCE FRONT

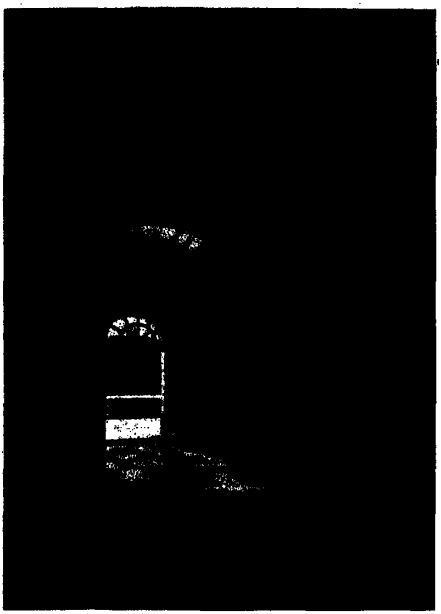
SOME reasons were put forward last week for regarding Sir Edwin and Mr. Robert Lutyens's elevations of Middleton as an outstanding example of a classically designed modern country house on the grand scale. Though the photographs of the interior were taken when the house was still a Red Cross hospital—that is, before its acquisition by the present owner—they will serve, with the plan, to illustrate the claim none the worse for being bare of furniture. When we study the elaborate requirements met by the plan, seeing how they have been fitted together into a lucid pattern, then compare the artificial organism with the seeming ease of the elevations, we cannot but notice the exceptional quality of the design. The result proves how wise was the advice given when the late Edward Hudson recommended Lord Jersey to consult Sir Edwin Lutyens in conjunction with his son for the new Middleton and so secure a contemporary outlook allied to experience. Though this might suggest that the younger man, already architect of notable buildings on his own account, was to be responsible for the modern arrangements, in practice the designing was a true collaboration. Indeed, to the student of Sir Edwin's work, Middleton presents some features that, though they are in the Lutyens tradition, are not to be found in it previously, implying that the younger man inherits many qualities of the elder in addition to original ones of his own.



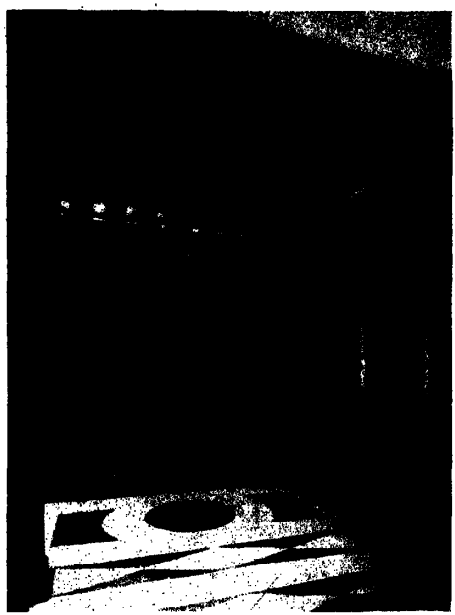
2.—THE VESTIBULE, LOOKING INWARDS FROM THE FRONT DOOR

Classical tradition does not admit of particular materials or requirements justifying eccentric departure from principles of design but demands that by hard thought they shall be met and co-ordinated within the framework of those principles. Requirements have become so complicated in modern times, with sanitary, electrical, and mechanical installations, that it is admittedly more difficult to maintain classical discipline now than when, say, Wren designed Chelsea Hospital. The modern school of architects tend to give up the struggle and take their orders to a varying extent from the mechanics of their design. Yet Middleton, where the sophisticated standard of country house life between the wars imposed complexities demanding much ingenuity for their lucid solution, demonstrates that the classical method, given the will and the wit, is perfectly capable of meeting these demands in a country house and of maintaining humanist standards of living as well.

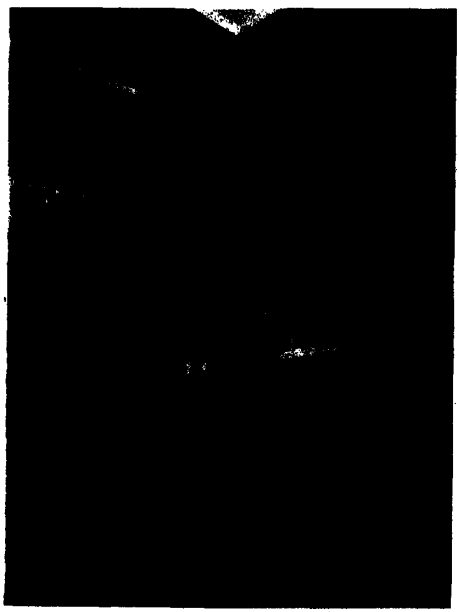
A complicating factor in the planning of the ground floor was the absence of windows on the entrance front (Fig. 1), due to the carrying across the elevation of the wall conceived as enclosing the forecourt (but never completed); also to the necessity of avoiding lavatory and pantry windows overlooking the entrance. This was overcome by the top-lighting of the gun-room and flower-room which flank the entrance and of the entrance corridor itself (Fig. 2), and by Lady Jersey's room and the pantry in the wings being lit in their end walls. The staircase and staircase hall are lit by windows in the recessed centre; but the lavatory accommodation (corresponding in plan to the staircase) has no direct light owing to the decision, taken at an advanced stage in the planning, to place the gun-room in front of it so as to have direct external access. By thus filling the space between the curtain wall and the recessed portion of the front, the lighting of the entrance hall was also impaired. In the latter case, however, this was not important since it was required to use much of the wall space in hall and staircase for the display of Lord Jersey's collection of china, lit artificially. This partial defect is the only instance in the design of any lack of coherence between plan and elevations. On the upper floors the provision of a bathroom to every bedroom, and of a passenger lift, was satisfactorily achieved within the elevational design



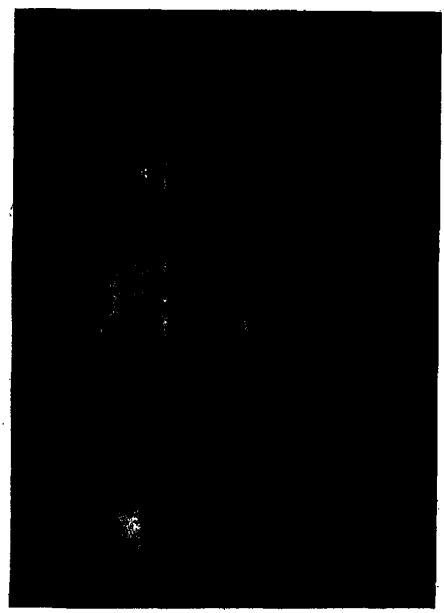
3.—THE MAIN ENTRANCE AND VESTIBULE



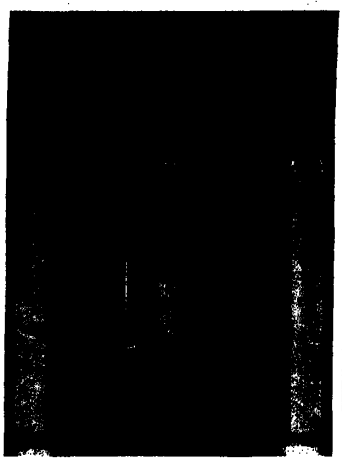
4.—THE STAIRCASE HALL, LOOKING NORTH



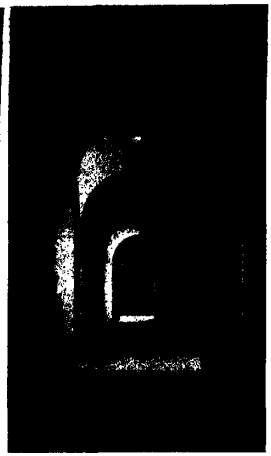
5.—STAIRCASE AND FIRST-FLOOR LANDING
With cabinets intended for the display of porcelain



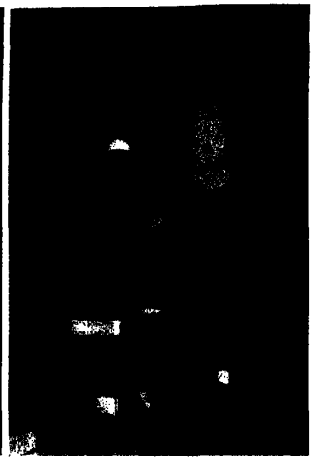
6.—SERVICE STAIRCASE
The soffits consist in a series of intersecting chords of circles



7.—SERVICE END OF DINING-ROOM



8.—FIRST-FLOOR CORRIDOR



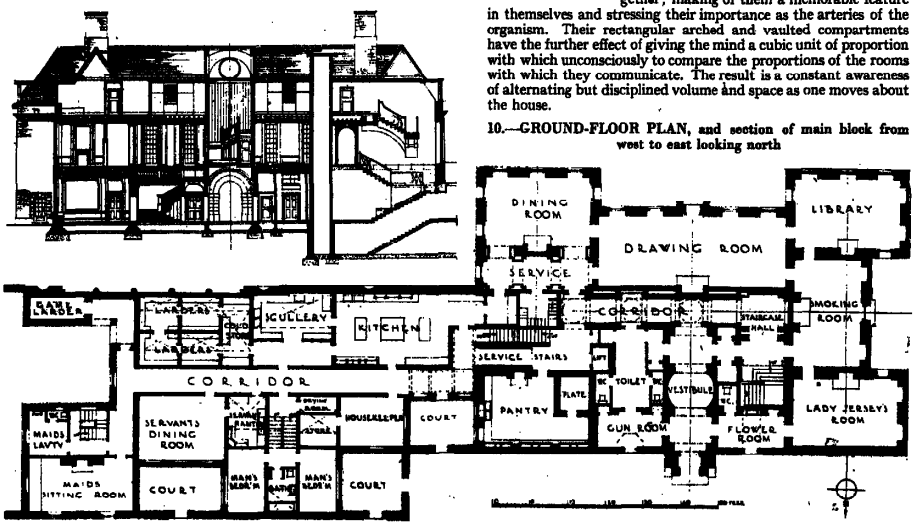
9.—LADY JERSEY'S BATHROOM

and without the extrusion of plumbing. The lay-out of the remainder of the ground floor was facilitated by the whole kitchen offices being contained in the low east wing, masked on the north by the blank forecourt wall (with courts of access) and on the south by a columned wall overgrown with magnolias and retained from the previous house. At the east end of the kitchen wing the maids' quarters occupy one of the four cottages (the others being for resident and visiting menservants) grouped about the entry to the forecourt and illustrated last week. By this means the upper storey of the main block was largely released for nurseries and spare rooms, only bedrooms for ladies' maids being required in the house itself.

The main practical requirements having been outlined, we can now make formal entry to the house. From the front door a vestibule of three vaulted compartments (Figs. 2 and 3), the walls stone lined, the floor paved in geometrical patterns of black and white marble, leads through to the main lateral corridor at right angles. This begins to the right, at the staircase hall (Fig. 4) with main staircase ascending to first floor only (Fig. 5) lined with teak. The corridor is barrel vaulted and panelled, in general character similar to the bedroom corridor immediately above it (Fig. 8). This arched treatment of vestibule and corridors is a notable feature of the interior design, giving a unity to the channels of communication. It is extended to the service compartment of the dining-room (Fig. 7) and to several of the bathrooms, notably to that designed for Lady Jersey (Fig. 9).

The provision of a service compartment to the dining-room is a development of William Kent's dining-room plan at Raynham and of the Marble Parlour at Houghton. Its elevation to the room consists of two arches, marbled pale green, flanking a fireplace (Fig. 12). The space so screened contains the service doors, including that to the cellar staircase, and a serving slab. The dining-room itself has its main entrance from the long drawing-room and has windows on three sides, those on the east looking down the length of the swimming-pool, to which a glazed door gives access.

One effect of the vaulted treatment of these passages is to impress on one's mind their planal function of tying the lay-out together; making of them a memorable feature in themselves and stressing their importance as the arteries of the organism. Their rectangular arched and vaulted compartments have the further effect of giving the mind a cubic unit of proportion with which unconsciously to compare the proportions of the rooms with which they communicate. The result is a constant awareness of alternating but disciplined volume and space as one moves about the house.

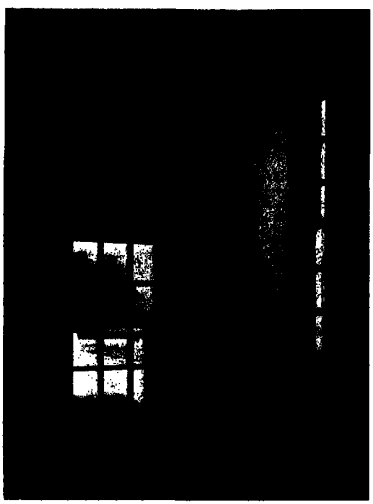



10.—GROUND-FLOOR PLAN, and section of main block from west to east looking north

Spatial design, that is the three-dimensional planning of the interior of a building so that it is the form and relationship of the spaces that tell rather than the solids, is an ultimate refinement of architecture to which few designers attain. The service staircase at Middleton (Fig. 6) is a remarkable instance of this designing in space: the upper flights are carried on a series of intersecting chords of circles, a conception requiring the most intricate calculation for the result to "come out right" and present, as it does, the appearance of inevitability.

In another aspect three-dimensional planning is noticeable in the setting of the secondary staircase, best seen in the section (Fig. 10), above the inner compartment of the vestibule, the vaulted construction of which is thus seen to be functionally related to its load—though vestibule and secondary staircase are not directly connected. Incidentally this staircase, lit from circular windows in a cross vault, is balustraded with plaited cane, partly as a safety precaution for children. The same material is used in the lower sections of the wooden grille which, on the nursery floor, surrounds a light well (Fig. 13) near the head of the service stair.

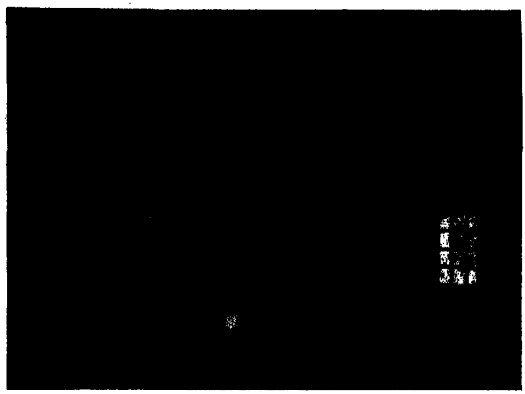
All the rooms have their distinctive features,



11.—A CORNER OF THE LIBRARY

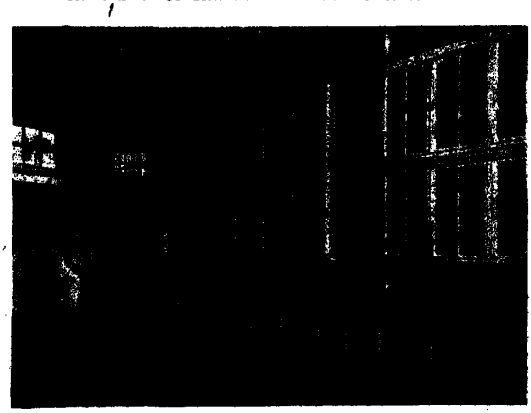
thoughtful and often unusual touches in their components, as in the corner of the library illustrated (Fig. 11) where the woodwork, recessed shelves, and window seats, for example, are all handled with considered design; or the beautifully equipped pantry (Fig. 14). In the nurseries the slope of the roof between the dormers is utilised for recessed chests of drawers and for the insertion of two windows at floor level for crawlers. The bathrooms attached to every bedroom are plain in treatment except that designed for Lady Jersey (Fig. 9), which is a notable instance of the between-wars cult of the tub. With a barrel and cross vaulted ceiling, its walls are of pink onyx and white marble, the metal work gilt bronze. The shower occupying the innermost section is enclosed in purdah glass which presents a reflecting surface outside but is transparent from within.

With the exception of one or two rooms, Middleton was occupied during the war first by a convent school and subsequently by the Joint War Organisation as a hospital for officers' head cases. After the war it was purchased by Mr. A. C. J. Wall for his occupation, and it is satisfactory to know that so outstanding an example of contemporary architecture is to continue to serve the purpose for which it was designed. A factor that, no doubt, exerted weight in this connection was the exceptional arrangements made for the comfort and convenience of domestic staff.



12.—IN THE DINING-ROOM. Looking towards the arched service compartment

13.—GRILLE OF THE WELL ON THE NURSERY FLOOR



14.—BUTLER'S PANTRY

# LOOPING

*A Golf Commentary by* BERNARD DARWIN

WHENEVER a golfer, having something novel and noteworthy in his method, greatly distinguishes himself, he has a rush of slavish copyists who believe that here is the secret for which they have long been searching. This is no new development; it is doubtless as old as golf itself. Years ago when Mr. Laidlay was in his prime, Sir Walter Simpson wrote in a passage that I have quoted before but love to set down yet again :

> His miserable imitators swarm on every golf green in the Lothians. . . . They have a little of Pygmalion's art; not one of them can animate their work. The ass of fable dressed like a lion, they address like one. When the beast brayed he was betrayed; so it is when they swing.

This disappointing state of things is hardly likely to ensue because James Bruen has won the Amateur Championship. It is true that he has a style entirely his own which is productive of the most tremendous results, but, as the reviewers say of a book of which they can make neither head nor tail, it defies analysis; still more, it defies imitation. Our new champion will remain, as was Boz, "the inimitable."

* * *

A very famous professional who was watching the play at Birkdale came in one day having found a peaceful part of the links where he could put in a little practice. Somebody asked what he had been doing, and he answered : "I've been looping," but it was an answer not to be taken seriously. Bruen has unquestionably a loop in his swing. He had it at St. Andrews in 1938, when he sent everybody flying to watch him by his astonishingly brilliant play in the Walker Cup trials, and it is decidedly more pronounced now than it was then. But what exactly is the form of it? The club-head is going so fast at the crucial moment (that is why he drives so horribly far) that no one can see what it is doing, and I am told that even to the camera it produces a shapeless blur.

What he looks as if he did it is possible hesitatingly to suggest. He seems at some point in the upward swing to take the club-head inwards, then to take it outwards, and so, after forming his loop, bring it down straight along the line on which he proposes to drive. In fact, his swing appears the converse of that inculcated by the doctrine of "hitting from the inside out." Clearly he cannot bring it from the outside in or he could not drive as he does, but probably by some optical illusion he looks as if he very nearly did.

* * *

There is, too, this added complication. What I have been trying to describe is rather the way in which he swung when we first saw him. Now he seems to begin by taking the club much further outwards from his body, so that presumably he must also at some point take it much further inwards in order to accomplish his loop. Something odd and unorthodox happens to the right elbow, which is apparently for a fraction of time high in the air and assuredly not in a position where the books say it ought to be. But frankly, I give it up; since I cannot make up my own mind as to precisely what happens I cannot hope to describe it to anyone else. All I can be tolerably sure of is the result, which is staggering. If there is anyone who hits the ball harder or farther I have not seen him.

Perhaps the only conclusion is that arrived at by two gentlemen to whom I listened as they refreshed themselves at the bar. Unfortunately their remarks must lose some of their pungency in print, since they must be interspersed with discreet and anæmic blanks : "—— the —— regulations. I'll play my own —— game. That's what he says, and —— well right, too," exclaimed one of them, and the other heartily and blankly concurred. I can add nothing to their wisdom, save that anybody who tries to copy the champion will probably break his wrist and his elbow and miss the globe into the bargain. "Genius," wrote Samuel Butler, "might be described as a supreme capacity for getting its possessors into trouble." In this case genius is much more likely to get its imitators into trouble, and they will not be able to get out again by hitting the ball 170 yards or so with a mashie niblick.

These pious imitations most often afflict the golfing community after some great player has holed an inordinate number of putts. Here, too, quickness of the hand does not deceive the eye. We can at least see the player's attitude, where he plants his feet and how he holds the club. The most conspicuous instance was the tidal wave of "Diegeling" that swept over the country after Leo Diegel had holed putts all over the green in the Ryder Cup match at Moortown in 1929, and beaten Abe Mitchell by an almost blasphemous and indecent margin. Not only those who had watched him but hundreds who had only read a description of him were to be seen contorted to anguish with their elbows projecting at incredible angles and their chins resting on the top of the putter shaft, trying to push the ball into the hole with their shoulders.

* * *

A quarter of a century before that, when the late Walter Travis won the Amateur Championship at Sandwich, there had come another imitative phase. That was much better justified, for whereas Diegel's was an essentially freakish method, to which he himself had been driven in despair and which was far from always serving him well, Travis was a truly great putter. On the other hand, there was nothing particularly imitable about his method, except that he hit the ball with beautiful smoothness, and that, alas! is what always defeats the copyist. It is true that he held the club with a grip now often seen, but then new, namely the "reverse overlapping" grip with the left forefinger over the little finger of the right hand. But the real thing that we all rushed to copy was his Schenectady putter. And then a hard-hearted Rules Committee told us we must not use it any more.

* * *

We may laugh at ourselves and other people for these antics which so seldom benefit us, but our golfing lives would have been perceptibly duller without them.

> It never done no good to me,
> But I can't drop it if I tried!

It was always good fun, and the hopes that were soon blasted had never perhaps been very seriously entertained. I remember, after watching J. H. Taylor for the first time, putting my right foot rather further forward in emulation of his then open stance. I did not drive any better; on the contrary; but it had been an interesting experiment. Then a year or two later I saw Harry Vardon playing at Ganton, just after he had won his first championship. Unless I am much mistaken he then held his right thumb down the shaft and not over it, as he came to do later. At any rate, I thought he did, and here was obviously the secret. I can still see the very spot in a certain field where, in devout imitation, I put my own right thumb down the shaft and prayerfully swung at a ball. The shot was a huge success, and so was the next and the next after that. In fact, I went home sure that I had got it at last, and life seemed a golden haze.

On the second day the thumb appeared to have lost some of its magic, and on the third I resignedly coiled it round the shaft once more. But the spot remains sacred, full of memories, not sad but pleasant. That field later became part of a golf course, and the scenery changed accordingly, but I have only to shut my eyes to see it exactly as it was when I struck my Vardonian shot. Perhaps in those sanguine days I might even have essayed looping.

# THE MONSTER OF THE POOL

*By* E. MOORE DARLING

THE POOL, a thousand feet above sea level, lay breathless in its little hollow. No whisper came from the leaves of the trees which ran down to the water's edge on the far side, while the high rushes at the shallow end were motionless. Gehazi and I drifted almost imperceptibly. My casting was more of a reflex action than the result of deliberate volition, for not a breath ruffled the surface and not a fish stirred.

"To think," said Gehazi, "that a short hour before you got here there was fly all over the Pool and the fish taking like mad. Happen they won't move again till dusk."

It was high June, so that dusk would be well after 10 p.m. I always leave the Pool at about 8 p.m. However, it was very lovely, as the unique peace of the place soaked into one's tired mind and soul. A fish, apparently demented, struck at the fly, and missing it by a couple of inches, shot away.

"Dammo," said Gehazi, "and you missed him! Tell you, have I, of the Pool's biggest fish ever, and how it towed us round and round?"

"No," said I, "was it a pike? I didn't know that the Pool held anything but trout."

Gehazi slipped from the seat to the bottom of the boat, settled his back—well padded by nature—into the angle of the seat and thwarts and began his story.

"A day like this and as still was it," said he; "low was the Pool, for no rain had there been for weeks. The Colonel was it who was with me in the boat, while his wife sat and watched us from the car, there in the trees. Just as you are doing, the Colonel was fishing, but not hoping was he, when his line tightened. 'Watch for him coming under the boat, sir', I said. 'He's a big 'un'. The Colonel kept a tight line but he could not recover any. 'Row me nearer,' said he; 'I'm in a snag'. 'But that are you not', says I. 'For no snag is there for a hundred yards, but row you nearer will I, for that is sense.' I did so and not till the Colonel's line was pointing nearly upright in the water did anything happen."

Gehazi paused rhetorically and I said, "What happened next?" "See you," he said, "Believe me will *you*, because you know me, though some wouldn't. Slowly in front of us the line began to move away, with the fish deep down. The Colonel gave him line from the reel till he came to the backing. 'Row you after him,' said he, 'for I do not trust this thin backing on so great a fish.' So I rowed until the Colonel had reeled in the backing and got a little of his casting line on the reel again, but still did the great fish keep swimming away from us, deep down."

Again Gehazi paused. Tapping the thwarts of the boat for emphasis, "Sir," he said, "on my Bible oath, four times round the Pool did I row and by this had the Colonel's wife got out of the car to watch us. 'What is happening, dear?' she asked. 'Shall I put lunch out?'

"'I am in the greatest fish in Wales,' said the Colonel, 'and by the feel of him not lunch will we need but to-morrow night's dinner.' By then were we past, the great fish still pulling and I still rowing hard. 'Keep at it, Gehazi,' said the Colonel. 'I believe he's tiring and he cannot keep this up for ever.' 'And neither can I,' I said. 'For I am 75 come Michaelmas and this is the fifth time round the Pool and fast are we going, see you.' It was as I said this that it happened."

"What happened?" I asked.

"We saw the great fish," replied Gehazi.

"Oh," I said. "At last he jumped, did he?"

"He did not," was the reply. "First came a long piece of broken water where the line went below the surface as if, just there, the water boiled. Then, see you, up came bits of stick and leaves and mud, while still harder did the fish so that row as I would, the Colonel lost line. 'Row,' he said, 'for I am to the backing again,' and now I did, while the water humped and boiled in front of me. Then——" Gehazi shuddered. His voice fell a full tone and faded

into little more than a whisper. "Then," he went on, "a great head appeared as big as a bulldog and the line went slack."

"You'd lost him?" said I. Gehazi ignored the interruption.

"'Take in line, sir,' I said, 'he's coming towards us.'

"'Row away like hell,' shouted the Colonel, 'he's coming towards us.'

"Then did I row and the great fish swam, head out of water."

"Head out of water?" said I.

"So did I say," said Gehazi. "It was a neel."

"An eel?" said I.

"Aye so," said Gehazi. "Measured it did I with my eye and the length of the boat was it. Then 'Cut the line, sir,' I said, 'for I am nearly done,' and 'Nearly done am I,' said the Colonel and cut the line. Not his best double taper was it but a flat line that he kept for fishing the Pool."

Just then a small cloud drifted across the sun, a few puffs of wind came between the gaps in the mountain westward and Gehazi took to the oars to get me on a drift where I could put a fly into the ruffle that the new wind was making.

"Of two things I will warn you," he said, as he got the boat across the Pool. "If ever you should book an old line here, do not wait a minute. *Cut the line. Be it best double taper or old, flat wet-fly line, cut it and cut it quickly." He stopped talking and went on rowing.*

"What is the second warning?" I asked.

"Never be on the Pool without a boatman," he replied. "That fish is an evil fish. From a volcano did he come and though a neel he seems, Behemoth is his name, for so did Lewis the Post say in Chapel."

He took his usual baksheesh and filled his vast spare pipe with enough tobacco to last a day. As I let in the clutch to come away, "Come again soon," he said. "And I will tell you more fine stories."

## MOTOR NOTES

# TAKING A CAR ACROSS THE CHANNEL

**By J. EASON GIBSON**

THE only Continental motoring that many of us have done for some years now has been while wearing khaki suits and driving rather utilitarian motor-cars. Now that better times have come again our thoughts are turning to the pleasure of driving down those long, straight, tree-lined roads towards the sunshine, with of course suitable halts for interesting meals.

As I have just been over in Belgium for the Grand Prix my impressions may be of interest. Incidentally, in the Grand Prix British amateur drivers did very well, taking first and second places in the two-litre class, making fastest lap in the whole race, and bringing home the Churchill and Seaman Cups. The few manufacturers who seem to take no interest in the recovery of British motor-racing would have been interested in what some of their prospective customers on the Continent thought of them.

Both the outward and return journeys took fewer than twelve hours, from door to door. We left home in London at 7 a.m. and were in our hotel in Brussels before 7 p.m., and everything went equally smoothly on the return trip. The condition of the main roads is fairly good, except in the Spa and Francorchamps area, and we did the 77 miles from Ostend to Brussels in one and a half hours, which is some indication that they cannot be too bad.

* * *

For the motorist intending to go over it is essential to allow ample time for renewing, or obtaining, passports and visas. It is wise to leave yourself about a month, as the Passport Offices and the various consulates are overworked at the moment. Either the Royal Automobile Club or the Automobile Association will handle the customs papers and the international driving permit required in some countries.

It is necessary to lodge a banker's guarantee with the R.A.C. or the A.A. for the amount of duty involved on the car. It is wise, although not strictly essential, to carry a list in triplicate of all tools, spares and tyres carried; this can make things much easier at some customs barriers. Under present currency regulations each person is permitted to take abroad £5 in sterling, £10 in foreign currency, and traveller's cheques up to a maximum in all of £80. If larger sums are required, special application must be made to the Bank of England on a form obtainable from any bank.

The cost of transporting the car across Channel need not come out of the allowance, but may be paid on this side before starting. The costs are not high, and, although they vary slightly on the various routes, the following can be taken as a fair average:—

| | £ | s. |
|---|---|---|
| Wheelbase not exceeding 8 ft. 6 ins. ... | 7 | 10 |
| " " " 9 ft. 0 ins. ... | 9 | 10 |
| " " " 9 ft. 6 ins. ... | 11 | 10 |
| " " " 10 ft. 6 ins. ... | 14 | 10 |
| Wheelbase exceeding 10 ft. 6 ins. ... | 16 | 10 |

Except when crossing on a Belgian boat it is essential to drain all petrol from the tank. Reservations for shipping space should be made as far as possible in advance, and should quote the wheelbase, weight, overall length, width, and height. Petrol is unrationed in both Switzerland and Belgium. In Belgium coupons are required, but these are readily obtainable from the Burgomaster (Service des Carburants). We found no difficulty in obtaining all the supplies we wanted. In France one can draw 33 gallons at the port of disembarkation, or chits instead, and a further 11 gallons per week from area petrol offices throughout France. The head office in Paris will be found very helpful.

**THE NEW JOWETT JAVELIN**
**The good ground clearance and streamlining can be observed**

During our trip I found that the representatives of the motoring organisations, both here and on the other side, were in every way back to pre-war standard, and the speed and courtesy with which the cars and our baggage were cleared made things very pleasant and easy. The reception one had from the people was heartening; and one felt in no time at all that one was among friends.

The position regarding food appeared to be very good as regards quality, quantity and price. Hotel charges, for anything other than an hotel *grand luxe*, worked out at about 300 francs per day inclusive. The rate of exchange when I was over was 178 Belgian francs to the pound. Prices in the best restaurants were no higher than in a restaurant of equal quality in the West End of London, and the members of our party who were interested said that drinks were cheaper. No difficulty was experienced in obtaining adequate supplies of good quality petrol and oils at any garage. All the garages were helpful and appeared anxious to do all they could to impress us with their keenness and efficiency.

We were warned by some Army friends never to leave the car unlocked or unattended; but although not always remembering to observe this caution we suffered no losses. From my experience there is no need to hesitate if contemplating a holiday in Europe. The crossing itself need not worry anyone, and, once you are across, the problems are, if anything, less than at home; there is no speed limit and one can park anywhere. I am going abroad again soon with Colonel Gardner, to watch his record attempts in Italy, and as we shall be driving right across Europe through Belgium, France, Switzerland and Italy, I expect to return with some useful information.

### THE NEW JOWETT JAVELIN

A completely new British car has just been announced. It is of sufficient interest to warrant a departure from our usual practice of giving no details before a full test. The car is the Jowett Javelin, and it embodies many features not usually found in the medium-size and medium-price class. The makers have been frank in their announcement, stating that their pre-war models "were out of date and manufactured by out-of-date methods." The target set the designer has been an ambitious one; how far he has succeeded will not be fully known until later. The desire was to produce a car which would be small enough for the average buyer in this country—that is less than 14 ft. overall—but roomy enough to carry up to six people on occasion. To be economical and to achieve a good performance with a low-taxation engine, the requirement was for a lighter car than usual. A combination of the softness and comfort of American car springing with the accuracy and stability of the small Continental car was aimed at. On paper it is clear that the makers have tried hard to solve these various problems, and it is hoped that soon the car can be put to the test.

A study of the specification, and an estimation of the probable performance, may be of interest. The total length is 13 ft. 8 ins. and the width across the front seat 52 ins. The total weight is 18 cwt., whereas the average for cars of this size is 25 cwt. The suspension is by torsion bars, assisted by telescopic shock-absorbers. The body framework and the chassis form one complete welded girder construction. The ground clearance is 8 ins., and the floor is completely flat. The four-cylinder engine develops 50 brake horse-power.

If these rather bald statements are studied, a fairly accurate idea of the performance can be gained. With such a power-to-weight ratio, and bearing in mind the aerodynamic profile of the bodywork, it should be above average. The maximum speed should be between 75 and 80 m.p.h., and the acceleration figures should show a 15 per cent. improvement over cars of a similar size and power. As the drag will be reduced by the streamlined body, the petrol consumption, too, should be noticeably improved. The ample ground clearance, in conjunction with the flat floor, should be of benefit on the overseas markets.

# CORRESPONDENCE

## RIVER TRANSPORT FOR LONDON?

SIR,—As the London traffic increases in all its intensity why should not river transport be adopted to lessen the load? Surely a great deal more use could be made of the Thames, and fast comfortable passenger steamers, as well as those for freight, could be inaugurated. It would take time to perfect an efficient service owing to the scarcity of material, craft, etc., but a beginning could be made. The barges used on Victory Day which are now for sale could be bought for such a purpose and reconditioned.

I am sure it would be a popular and paying proposition and a boon to the people who work indoors all day and to whom a change of scene and plenty of fresh air would be welcome.

Travelling to and from work every day is no longer a simple matter, and for a great many the jostling, clamour and general scrimmage of the rush hour have become an absolute nightmare, injurious to health.

A well-organised river service would not only benefit thousands of individuals, but would be the means of easing the traffic jams everywhere in the highways of London which have already risen in a short time to gigantic proportions.—DOROTHY ALLHUSEN, *Easterton, Devizes, Wiltshire.*

## A GOOD YEAR FOR ORCHIDS

SIR,—I have once found a white *Orchis morio* in Herefordshire, where the ordinary type is common. It was a great puzzler. This season seems to be especially good for the orchid-hunter, if for nobody else.

In this district, within an area of about a hundred yards, I have picked a bunch including the common spotted orchis, the sweet-scented and the pyramidal, as well as the rarer bee, the frog and the inconspicuous little musk (*Herminium Monorchis*), and still left plenty for seed. This last, though rather quaint than showy, fills the room with its odour of honeycomb. I cannot say I detect any scent of musk at night, as the books say, but I am not very sure what musk smells like. Is it possible that the wet spring is specially favourable to the growth of the mycellium on which the orchids depend in what the scientists call symbiosis?—W. K. SCUDAMORE, *Ansley, Malling Hill, Lewes, Sussex.*

## WHICH IS THE LARGEST TITHE BARN?

SIR,—Where really is the second largest tithe barn in England? Mr. S. P. B. Mais in his article on Bredon, says that Bredon has it. Ours in Sturry, belonging to this school, Milner Court, has always been so described. It is 160 ft. long by 24 ft. Does Bredon's beat that? And can anyone tell us where the largest tithe barn is?—WILFRID H. OLDAKER, *Milner Court, Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.*

[The longest tithe barn in England was the gigantic barn at Abbotsbury, 276 ft. long. Only part of it is now roofed, so that the statement has to be made in the past tense. Investigation proves that Mr. Mais was wrong in claiming second place for the fine tithe barn at Bredon. According to the Victoria County History of Worcestershire it is 124 ft. 3 in. in length and is exceeded by the barn at Middle Littleton in that county (130 ft.). The barn at Sturry is considerably longer than either of these but must yield to three Wiltshire barns—Tisbury (188 ft. 3 in. by 32 ft. 3 in.), Wolfhall (172 ft. by 28 ft.), and Bradford-on-Avon (167ft. 6 in. by 30ft. 3 in.). The measurements are those given by Percy Mundy in *Memorials of Old Wiltshire*, those for Tisbury and Bradford-on-Avon being internal. Perhaps one of our readers can tell us whether there are other barns which compete with Tisbury for second place.—ED.]

## CHARCOAL FOR HOP-DRYING

SIR,—One can see charcoal prepared for the hop-drying season on a farm near Maidstone. Not many of the hop kilns are started with charcoal, as they now burn coke or oil fuel. The wood is piled together and covered with sand on top so that it burns slowly. When the sand turns white then the wood underneath has turned into charcoal. This charcoal-burner has performed the operation for thirty years and he told me that the fumes from the fires were an excellent cure for indigestion!—C. T. SPURLING (Rev.), *The Rectory, Otham, near Maidstone, Kent.*

## KESTREL OVER THE CITY

SIR,—I have seen the letter in your issue of June 28 reporting a kestrel over the City. Your correspondent may be interested to know that in 1945 a pair were said to be nesting in a large building just south of Kensington Gardens. I cannot vouch for that, but while living near South Kensington station I frequently saw a kestrel hunting near that station and in Chelsea in 1945, and I think also in 1944.—M. I. WEBB, *South Wing, Madingley Hall, Cambridge.*

## EPITAPH OF AN OTTER-HOUND

SIR,—I am greatly interested in Mr. Christopher Hussey's first article on Rousham in your issue of June 14, and the excellent photographs, especially those which show the tablet with an epitaph to an otter-hound, attached to the keystone of the arch of the upper cascade. I was shown this epitaph some years ago when hunting the otter on the Cherwell through the grounds of Rousham, but omitted to take a copy of it, only remembering the first two lines:

Tyrant of the Cherwell flood
Come not near these sacred groves. . . .

My recollection is that the hound's name was not Ringwood, as stated in the article (p. 1087), but Ruffun, a name by which the Master of the Bucks. Otter-hounds expressed his intention of calling one of his puppies.

I should much like to have a copy of the epitaph and any particulars of its date and origin and of the interest of its author in otter-hunting. If you cared to publish it, I am sure it would be of interest to many of your otter-hunting readers as well as to myself.—ARTHUR MACDONALD, *Hamly, Tring, Hertfordshire.*

[The inscription, too long to have been quoted in the article, was evidently introduced some time subsequently to the formation of the garden, perhaps by Sir Charles Cottrell, the son of Sir Clement to whom General

A CHARCOAL-BURNER IN KENT
*See letter: Charcoal for Hop-drying*

Dormer bequeathed Rousham. Neither of the latter owners are likely to have been much addicted to otter-hunting, if only owing to their age. Sir Charles, who succeeded in 1758, was evidently of a more active habit—he sold General Dormer's library—and may well have seen nothing inappropriate in burying Ringwood in Venus's Vale.

The lines are as follows:

"In front of this Stone lies
the remains of Ringwood, an
Otter Hound of extraordinary
sagacity.
Tyrant of the Cherwell's flood
Come not near this sacred gloom
Nor with thy insulting Brood
Dare polute my *Ringwood's* tomb.

When though Death has laid him
low
Long the terror of thy Race
Couples taught by him to know
Taught to force thy lurking place.

Mark how *Stubborn's* airy tongue
Warns the time to point the Spear
*Ruffun* loud thy knell has rung
*Ruler* echoes Death is near.

All the Skies in concert rend
*Butler* cheers with highest glee
Still thy Master and thy friend
*Ringwood*, ever think on thee."
—ED.]

## "TOWNESEND'S BUILDING" AT ROUSHAM

SIR,—On stylistic evidence, Mr. Hussey is quite right to deny William Townesend any share in the plan of Kent's garden temple at Rousham. But the apportioning of credit between architect and builder in a co-operative age of architecture can only be conjectural, and, in this case, on consideration of the following points. Was the septuagenarian "architecto" Townesend (with a reputation as an editor of other men's designs) called from Oxford to act only as a builder? Why was this temple specially distinguished, by its contemporary name, as "Townesend's Building"? Where was Kent in 1738? If General Dormer knew General Tyrrell of Shotover Park, there may be a link between the garden temple there (also domed and octagonal, assigned by the present writer to Townesend) and the Rousham temple.

Since my article on Townesend was published (*Architectural Review*, October, 1945), his long list of Oxford buildings has been added to, and it may interest your readers to know that the full "resurrection" of this Oxford artist—as so far worked out—will appear in *A Christ Church Miscellany* to be published "for the Author" on or before November 4, the quater-centenary of Henry VIII's Foundation of Christ Church.—W. G. HISCOCK, *Christ Church Library, Oxford.*

## THE ROSE REVIVED

SIR,—The late Mr. C. R. L. Fletcher, of Oxford, told me that the sign of the Rose Revived (mentioned in a letter in your issue of June 28) existed in the fifteenth century. Latterly it was entitled the Rose, or Rose and Crown. Possibly the Rose Revived refers to the rise to power of the Lancastrians under Henry VII.—G. A. TOMLIN, *Hasketon, near Woodbridge, Suffolk.*

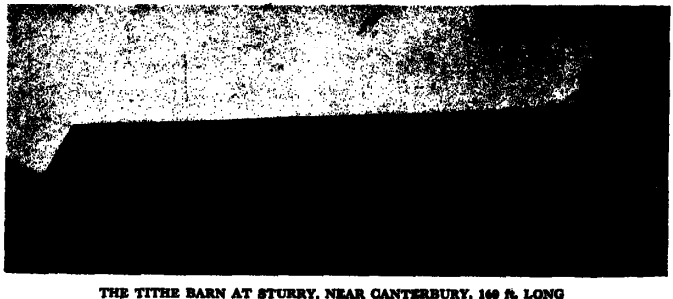
## WHAT IS A FORSTAL?

SIR,—For some time I have been trying to track down the origin of the word "forstal," or "fostal," mentioned in the article on Brenchley (July 31). It is in common use as a place-name in this part of the country, e.g., Hunter's Forstal, St. Lawrence Forstal.

I am told that it originally meant (*a*) a clearing in a forest, (*b*) the junction of woodland paths or roads, and (*c*) a three-cornered field among woods. I am inclined to believe that there is some link with the word "forest," but realise that this may not be so. So far I have been unable to find proof that any of the above definitions is correct.

Another local word which puzzles me is "list," used as the name of the narrow strip of ground too near to the roots of hops to be ploughed. My dictionary gives one meaning of the word as a "border or line," which may explain it, but I know of no similar use, and it seems strange that the word, in this sense, should have survived only as a term used in hop-growing, a form of husbandry which was unknown at the time when this meaning was in common use.

My search (many months ago) for confirmation of the chequers-tree legend had one pleasing result. I was sent four young chequers-trees, which



THE TITHE BARN AT STURRY, NEAR CANTERBURY, 160 ft. LONG
*See letter: Which is the Largest Tithe Barn*

are now thriving on my land.—W. A., *Kent.*

[The Oxford Dictionary gives "forstal" as a variant spelling of "forestall," used in Kent to mean the space in front of a farm-house or the approach to it.—ED.]

## HORNED HARES

SIR,—I was interested in the letter about horned hares, which appeared in your issue of June 28. I was staying before the war at Klosterreichenbach, near Freudenstadt in the Black Forest, and I noticed in the inn in which I was staying a mounted head of a hare with horns. While I was gazing at it, I noticed the smiles of the "locals," and I gathered that in those days there were Germans with a sense of humour, and taxidermists with a high degree of skill.—G. HOWARD HEATON, *Birmingham.*

## THE THATCHER OF GOTHAM

SIR,—At Clifton, not far from Nottingham, there is a cottage with a weathercock of thatch. As I cannot remember having seen a thatched weathercock in this district before, I thought the photograph might interest your readers. The thatch and the bird are the work of Mr. S. Bradbury, of Gotham, Nottinghamshire.—C. E. LLOYD, *42, Fairbank Crescent, Sherwood, Nottinghamshire.*

## CEYLON'S FORMER CAPITAL

SIR,—An interesting feature of the ruins of Polonnaruwa, Ceylon's ancient capital, is its bathing pools, which date from the twelfth century. There is evidence that the water was controlled by sluices, and raised by means of machinery, spouting out of pipes in spray, the whole structure giving the effect of rain ceaselessly falling. In certain baths the water was perfumed. Fancifully-shaped pavilions were also attached to these baths.

The section of steps in the photograph belongs to the Lotus Bath some distance away from the Gal-Vihara, or Stone Temple, at Polonnaruwa. It is reached by a jungle path, and the steps leading down its sides, as will be seen in the illustration, were carved like curved petals so that, when laid in place, they produced the effect of a full-blown lotus flower.

Such was the architecture of a long past age in Ceylon, when, 800 years ago, King Parakrama Bahu the Great held sway. His city of Polonnaruwa is ruined now, but a good many of the ancient buildings, comprising palaces, shrines, temples, *Viharas* and *dagobas*, have since been restored, thanks to the work of the Government Archæological Department.—S. V. O. SOMANADER, *Batticaloa, Ceylon.*

STRAW WEATHERCOCK ON A COTTAGE AT CLIFTON, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

*See letter: The Thatcher of Gotham*

## A BLACK-AND-WHITE BIRD

SIR,—Your readers may be interested in the enclosed photograph of a piebald cock blackbird. The bird was a partial albino, on the wings only, mainly on the right wing. It was not

THE PIEBALD BLACKBIRD

*See letter: A Black-and-White Bird*

until he appeared on the scene to feed the chicks that I saw him and his peculiarity.—DAVID GUESTON, *North End, Portsmouth, Hampshire.*

## A SWIMMING BAT

SIR,—While we four were having tea recently beside the Stoinhuide Lake near Hanover, Germany, our attention was drawn to a slight commotion over the water. This proved to be caused by a rook which was making a series of murderous attacks on a bat.

The time was 6 o'clock (Central European Summer Time) and sunshine was still warm and bright. The rook made a number of swoops, retired to sit on a stake for a few seconds, and then returned to the fray. The victim had little difficulty in evading its adversary, which quickly gave up the chase and vanished.

The bat, however, apparently exhausted by the efforts thus forced upon it, dropped into the water. There it rested for a moment and then, to our astonishment, struck out straight for the bank by the shortest route (about 10 yards), using powerful deliberate strokes. We hastened to meet it, and the swimming bat was clearly observed at a distance of 2 ft. Its activity in no way resembled the haphazard splashings of a non-swimmer.

Having reached the bank, here formed by a wooden retaining wall, it climbed about a foot clear of the water, where it hung complacently upside down, evidently none the worse for its adventure, apart from a certain dampness which would soon be dried by the warm sun.

The aspects of the matter which impressed us most were: (1) That a proverbially blind animal should unhesitatingly select the shortest route to safety under such embarrassing circumstances; and (2) that an aerial mammal should so clearly demonstrate foreknowledge, either inherited or acquired, of swimming.

We should be glad to hear of any comparable incident in the experience of your readers.

None of us is, unfortunately, sufficiently a naturalist to be able accurately to name the species of either antagonist, but they appeared to be respectively a common (or garden) rook and a common (or belfry) bat.—J. MANNERS, I. WALMESLEY-COTHAM, R. J. SHACKLETON, G. GOODALL-COPESTAKE, *Officers' Mess, 7th Royal Tank Regiment, B.A.O.R.*

## THE COASTLINE OF SKYE

SIR,—In the admirable article on Skye by Mr. W. A. Poucher (June 28) there is one overstatement.

The author says "the coast line of this misty isle is thousands of miles in length." I have measured the coast line on the one-inch Ordnance map and I make it something under 360 miles. Probably indentations of the coast too small to be shown on the one-inch map would increase this measurement, but it could not possibly stretch it to thousands of miles.—C. J. P. CAVE, *Stoner Hill, Petersfield, Hampshire.*

## THUYA FENCE POSTS

SIR,—My snapshot illustrates a matter of interest to persons managing country estates or farms—the far greater durability of *Thuya plicata* (Western red cedar) in the ground by comparison with Douglas fir. Unfortunately, exact dates and ages are not available, but the fence was about eight years old when it was pulled up: that is, the stakes had

DOUGLAS FIR FENCE POSTS, ROTTED AWAY, AND (right) THUYA POSTS STILL SOUND

*See letter: Thuya Fence Posts*

been about eight years in the ground. The Douglas stakes, from trees about 17-18 years old, were rotten, but the thuya, from trees 14-15 years old, were still sound, even at the points.—J. D. U. W., *Oxford.*

## DUAL-PURPOSE CATTLE

SIR,—May we comment on Mr. Clyde Higgs's reply to Mr. Mansfield's article on dual-purpose cattle?

Mr. Higgs infers that dual-purpose and inefficiency are synonymous. If efficiency means economical production, the total yield of milk and beef from a true dual-purpose herd over a period of years is a great national asset, and is far in excess of the single product from a pure dairy herd. Dual-purpose beef is called "variable and uncertain." This is not true. Dual-purpose steers produce prime beef and to infer that cow beef means dual-purpose beef is foolish.

Standards of efficiency are modified by many factors. Mr. Higgs criticises Mr. Mansfield's standards as being too high, yet assumes for his typical "third class canning cow" an average lactation of 1,100 gallons with each of four calves, after which she is to be scrapped. Surely too good an animal to scrap—or too good to be true? Is this intended to indicate the normal production of Mr. Higgs's

THE LOTUS STEPS AT POLONNARUWA

*See letter: Ceylon's Former Capital*

own single-purpose herd? If so, it has escaped our notice.

If single-purpose cattle produce only modest yields, their owner suffers an appreciable disadvantage, since almost all his dairy-bred bull calves are automatically scrapped instead of becoming an asset both to him and to the nation. Mr. Higgs's suggestion that true dairy-bred bull calves can be made into satisfactory beef steers will not bear investigation.

Mr. Higgs credits his hypothetical single-purpose herd owner with more wisdom in the choice of a herd sire than his dual-purpose counterpart. On what grounds? True dual-purpose breeders are at least as careful and discriminating by comparison. Their reward is correspondingly greater, since they gain 50 per cent. more useful calves each year.

Mr. Higgs allows a man, if he wishes, to produce beef, stipulating that it shall be done with "tools designed for the job." In our submission true dual-purpose breeds are the only economical means of doing this to-day, and they produce, in addition, as much milk as a single-purpose herd on the average farm. The steers thrive on the "luscious leys," after they have been grazed by their milk-producing dams and sisters.

Mr. Higgs suggests that, in order to breed his own herd replacements satisfactorily, a man needs a single-purpose herd. On what grounds is this peculiar assumption made? There is usually more breeding trouble with dairy cattle (especially those forced for high yields) than with true dual-purpose cows, whose stamina is ordinarily superior, and whose breeding life is much longer.

The core of the argument is that Mr. Higgs is confusing dual-purpose with no-purpose, and he is condemning the former, about which, from personal experience, he probably knows nothing.

Mr. Higgs infers that single-mindedness is a virtue. It may also be called the possession of a one-track mind, which is not usually considered to be an advantage. May we also mention that man shall not live by milk alone?—AUSTIN A. GARLICK, *Redcombe Farms, New Farm, Wolston, near Coventry, Warwickshire.*

## CUCKOOS IN A HOUSE-MARTIN'S NEST

SIR,—Is there a housing shortage in the cuckoo world? Although there are plenty of nests in the golf course more usually gate-crashed by cuckoos, an eccentric cuckoo has succeeded in depositing an egg in each of two adjacent house-martin's nests, which are tucked inaccessibly away under the eaves at the back of our club house. The young martins have been cast out, and each nest now contains a rapidly growing young cuckoo. With such a small hole of egress, they will surely become prisoners. If this is unusual, as I suspect, you might care to print this letter.—HUGH BURY, *Alwoodley Golf Club, near Leeds, Yorkshire.*

[This is a most interesting and unusual case, and we hope our correspondent will watch events and report them in these pages.—ED.]

## ROTTERDAM PHŒNIX

SIR,—Your readers may be interested by this recent photograph of the 15th-century church of St. Laurence, at Rotterdam. When the Germans launched their ruthless air attack on the city, on May 14, 1940, over 30,000 people were killed and 650 acres in the heart of the city were laid waste. The people of Rotterdam have a fifteen-year plan of reconstruction for a new city, the first stone of which was recently laid. The church of St. Laurence, though roofless and partly in splints, stands out as a landmark in the huge open space which was already cleared of rubble before the liberation.—R. W., *Bristol, Gloucestershire.*

THE 15th-CENTURY CHURCH OF ST. LAURENCE, ROTTERDAM, AS IT IS TO-DAY

*See letter: Rotterdam Phœnix*

## MASTER BROCK GROWS UP

SIR, Readers of COUNTRY LIFE may be interested to know that David, the young badger, whose photograph appeared in your issue of May 24, is still doing well. I send you an up-to-date portrait in which he appears almost grown up. The sow has given him every attention and he has had a few fresh eggs to help him along.

DAVID, THE BADGER: AN UP-TO-DATE PORTRAIT

*See letter: Master Brock Grows Up*

In answer to your question about the gestation period, this was just short of seven months and he was born on March 2. I have letters and requests for photographs, so that some interest has been shown in what we are still hoping will turn out to be the first recorded badger to be reared in captivity.—RALPH WRIGLEY, 37, *Sallhill Road, Clitheroe, Lancashire.*

## FOR THE ETON v. HARROW MATCH

SIR,—You may like to see this relic of the Eton v. Harrow matches of a past age, lent me by a kind friend. It was found in a junk shop; beyond this I do not know its history. It is an Eton fan of light blue with the names of the two elevens of 1875 inscribed in gold letters.

There are to be seen two earlier specimens of 1873 in the Long Room at Lord's, one of Eton and the other of Harrow blue, and this one is destined, I believe, to join them. It bears some famous names, especially on the Eton side, Alfred Lyttelton, Walter Forbes and J. E. K. Studd. Studd, as the records show, did not, in fact, play, though he had played against Winchester. His first appearance against Harrow was in the following year. The Etonian young lady who owned the fan had little scope for its use on the first day, since, save for forty minutes' play, the rain descended pitilessly. On the second Eton made 202 and seemed likely to win in an innings, but Harrow gallantly staved off defeat. Incidentally, this fan is an illustration of early enterprise in advertising, since on the back is set out a list of Messrs. Rimell's celebrated perfumes and essences.—B. D., *Kent.*

AN ETON FAN FOR THE MATCH AT LORD'S WITH THE NAMES OF THE TWO ELEVENS

*See letter: For the Eton v. Harrow Match*

## A FERRET'S LITTER

SIR,—Your correspondent from Sidcup asks whether there is any record of a ferret exceeding eleven in a litter. There are several records of larger litters. In 1944 there were two litters of eighteen reported from Surrey, though in one case two of the family were born dead. These two litters would appear to be the highest recorded for the British Isles.

Other large litters reported in the Press include fifteen from Scotland in 1936, fourteen in 1931 from Surrey and thirteen from several counties ranging from Gloucestershire to Yorkshire. Abroad, it was reported in a contemporary that an English-bred doe had a litter of twenty-three in Hungary (1938), but two were born dead.—G. KENNETH WHITEHEAD (Capt.), *Greenbank, Bury, Lancashire.*

SIR,—Replying to the question asked by Mr. David M. Edwards in his letter in your issue of June 14, my ferret produced twelve in her first litter of April 26 last.—L. SAMPLE (Major), *Melksham, Wiltshire.*

## AUTRES TEMPS, AUTRES MŒURS

SIR,—The Rowlandson print of the man with the sundial which illustrated the article *Clocks and Time-keeping in Georgian England* (COUNTRY LIFE, June 21) exemplified the length of caption required to explain a joke in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. I showed the picture to a number of modern young people, in their late 'teens, and early twenties, and asked them what caption they would have given it. Here are four of the replies in my order of preference:

(a) "You said, sir, 'Keep a watch on the sundial and bring me the time at noon.'"

(b) "Your weapon, sir. The enemy is at the gate."

(c) "It was a condition of sale, sir. I couldn't buy the watch without the sundial and shovel."

(d) "Really, Murgatroyd! When I say 'Bring me the time', don't take me too literally."

Perhaps other readers would like to test the reactions of mid-20th-century youth to the humour of 150 years ago and allow us to read of the result.—R. G. R., *Torquay, Devon.*

## THE POSITION OF THE PETROL TANK FILLER

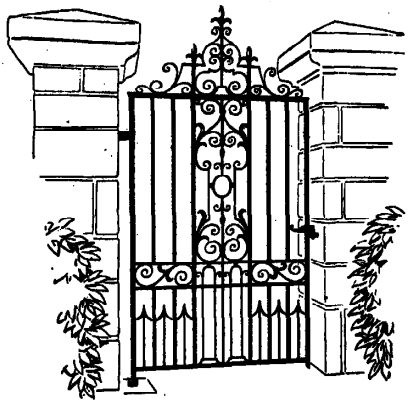
SIR,—Reading Mr. J. Eason Gibson's objection to recessed car door handles reminds me of a long-standing objection of mine. What is the reason for nearly all cars (in fact, all those I have known) carrying their petrol tank fillers on the left-hand back wing?

My points against this method are these: (*a*) Petrol drippings ruin the coachwork. (*b*) Any ill-minded person can put damaging material into the petrol system. (*c*) The actual filler cap spoils the design of the car.

If it were put into the boot, all these troubles might be avoided. It would be away from the coachwork; it could be locked up, and it would be hidden, leaving a clear back wing.—ANTHONY J. WILKINSON, *Lazonby Rectory, Penrith, Cumberland.*

## A GIANT LABURNUM

SIR,—In your issue of June 14 you inserted a communication from me about a giant laburnum tree. Unfortunately, by an error the spread of the tree is given as 36 yards. It should have been 30 feet. I shall be interested to hear whether a larger laburnum tree in this country is known.—W. R., *Hampshire.*



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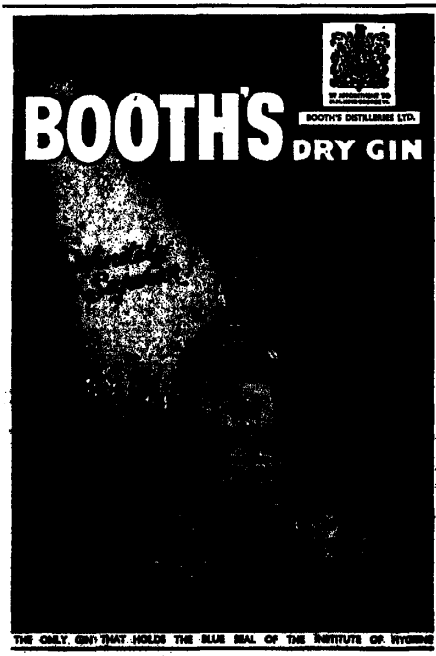

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NEW BOOKS

# OSCAR WILDE IN A NEW LIGHT

## *Reviews by* HOWARD SPRING

A RELATIVE of mine once nursed an aged colonel who in his young days had belonged to a club of which Charles Dickens was a member. The colonel would not read Dickens's novels and would not even speak of him without contempt. "The fellow was a bounder!" he would explode. "You should have seen his waistcoats!"

This is a trivial instance of the way in which an artist's private life can influence thinking about his public works. Usually, it is kept within reasonable bounds: most of us can accept the waistcoats with a smile and the novels with applause: but in the case of Oscar Wilde the situation went beyond reason into the realm of passion and prejudice. Wilde's moral offence caused thousands to shut his books with a doomful bang; and, stung by this, his admirers entered upon panegyrics concerning "the Master" which were, I feel, due rather to hot indignant loyalty than to a reasonable consideration of Wilde's position in relation to the whole body of English writing. Thus Wilde's reputation suffered from two conflicting errors: from those who sought to blow it up to the splendour of a balloon shining near to Heaven itself, and from those who turned their artillery upon the balloon and tried to make it a flaccid nothing, squirming in the mire.

**THE LIFE OF OSCAR WILDE.** *By Hesketh Pearson* (Methuen, 16s.)

**THE USE OF HISTORY.** *By A. L. Rowse* (English Universities Press, 4s. 6d.)

**THE LATE MRS. PRIOLEAU.** *By Monica Tindall* (Peter Davies, 9s. 6d.)

That is how the famous controversy appears to me. My own feeling is that Wilde had nothing much to say and said it with unusual wit and grace. I am not myself one of Lady Windermere's fans, but I hope that, at this distance of time, the famous schemozzle of the 'nineties has had no place in forming or malforming my judgment. Not that the private life of an artist has nothing to do with his work. Dickens's waistcoats are as obvious in his novels as his pity and love of laughter; and Wilde's moral standpoint is in his work as clearly as his wit, friendliness and noble dislike for the standards of a commercialised community. But the place to consider these things is in the work, and the folly of the late Victorians was that that is just where they did not consider them at all.

### "A GREAT CHARACTER"

This long preamble is to introduce Mr. Hesketh Pearson's excellent book *The Life of Oscar Wilde* (Methuen, 16s.). Mr. Pearson states his intention on the first page: "To reconstruct Wilde as a great character . . . to take him out of the fog of pathology into the light of comedy, to restore the true perspective of his career, to revive the controversialist, not the convict."

Mr. Pearson succeeds in carrying out this intention. Wilde emerges from the solidly documented but most readable pages as "a great character"; but, while this view of the man needs to be put, I doubt if it is the finally valid point of view. "Far too much attention," says Mr. Pearson, "has been paid to his tragic story and nothing like enough to his delightful personality." Certainly we should see the man in the round, and this must include the gay liver of life that he was before the fall. But the fact remains that he did fall; and in the very contrast of this Before and After is the kernel which makes Wilde's a tragic figure and not a humorous one existing in "the light of comedy." It is the last act that determines the nature of the play.

However, we are not considering a hypothetical book but the book which Mr. Pearson has written; and here we have the Wilde who, to me, is so deeply appealing because, for all his façade of worldly wisdom, he so much disliked the "wisdom" of the world he knew. He was, as we so clearly see from these pages, open-hearted and self-giving, refusing to invest money, always willing to lend it or give it: "a really genial and kindly nature, which seemed to be at variance with his egotism, self-assertion and love of notoriety, for he took an eager interest in others, encouraging and applauding them; a temperament that was reckless, generous and extremely indolent."

This is a full, rich book, stuffed with examples of Wilde's famous phrases, and it makes out, with chapter and verse, the case for Wilde's being the sort of man outlined in the phrases given above. It makes out, too, the case for Wilde's being a man of physical strength who knew how to protect himself from any who presumed upon their misjudgment of his character. Altogether, those who are interested in discovering the sides of Wilde's character which have been, as Mr. Pearson puts it, hidden by "the fog of pathology," could hardly have a better guide than this generous and understanding book.

### STUDY OF HISTORY

Mr. A. L. Rowse's *The Use of History* (English Universities Press, 4s. 6d.) is the introductory volume to a new series of books. It is felt that interest in certain dominant men may well lead a student to pass from the personality to that complex of actions and reactions by which such men influence their times and are in turn influenced by their times. Thus we are to have *Wesley and the Methodist Movement*, *Lenin and the Russian Revolution*, and many more.

Mr. Rowse is the right man to

give us this preliminary book. His place as a historian is established, and so is his attitude to the business of writing history. There is a school which thinks that the accumulation of detail is enough, and that to have discovered from some mediæval washing-book how many shirts a rustic squire sent to the tub each week is a pregnant contribution to knowledge. There is another school with an airy disregard for the accumulation of facts and a fine gift of flying off into phrase and fable. Those who know Mr. Rowse's work will be aware that his "line" is to have all his facts beyond cavil but to use them as the ingredients, not as the pudding. His final feast is an imaginative and poetic affair in which facts have subserved truth and science has been made the servant of art. He has a chapter here discussing the old question whether the writing of history is a science or an art; and I suppose the answer is that, like everything else, like living itself, it is what the producer has the spiritual discernment to make it.

### EXCITING READING

Anyway, in this little book, whose aim is to present the case for reading history, Mr. Rowse makes the subject exciting, and that is everything. "There is no reason why anything should ever be dull," he writes—a good saying. Certainly he himself is not dull here. He shows to the full the "blazing confidence" which he declares himself to have in history as a subject of study.

Of course, the historians themselves are not agreed as to what history is, as to what it teaches us, and indeed as to whether it teaches us anything at all. Mr. Rowse quotes the remark of the historian Bury: "So long as history was regarded as an art, the sanctions of truth and accuracy could not be severe," a remark to drive any artist mad with resentment, seeing that he must hold, if he be an artist at all, that the one sphere of life in which truth and accuracy are the very body and blood of the matter is the sphere of art. Finally, only that which is true survives, and few things survive save works of art.

However, this is a hard saying, especially in these days; and it is not surprising that Mr. Rowse received an anonymous letter from Ealing telling him: "All arts students should be cleared out of the universities to make way for the science students." Well, it may come to that yet. The "half-baked Ealing idiot," as Mr. Rowse calls him, may yet have his way, and then, no doubt, a good time will be had by all—for a space. But if you want to know why the Ealing idiot should not have his will, you may find reasons enough in Mr. Rowse's book.

### A FIRST NOVEL

Mrs. Monica Tindall's first novel *The Late Mrs. Prioleau* (Peter Davies, 8s. 6d.) is an exploration of the life and character of a woman whose course was in some respects like Oscar Wilde's. She, like him, was Irish and came to live in London. Like him, she was talented and of a sunny, cheerful and affectionate disposition, and, like him, she fell from the peak of happiness into tragedy.

Mrs. Prioleau's trouble was that she married the wrong man, then had a prolonged love affair with the right one, and finally was left flat when the right one married another woman. The jolt completely reversed the tendencies of a normally good and attractive person. She became a hater of her children, a torturer of animals, a back-biter, slanderer and writer of vindictive anonymous letters, a woman so hated that her son killed her.

It is well done, but I "have my doubts." To take again the case of Wilde: even after the tremendous shock of imprisonment and ostracism, there was not this appalling moral degeneration; he retained much sweetness and courtesy. I felt, in a word, that Mrs. Tindall had overdone it.

If this is hardly yet achievement, it is a book of promise. But the author should watch her detail. There is a scene in which a woman pours a bedroom jug of water over the head of an hysterical man. It was not a day when one would welcome a cold bath. "I was glad of the fire." Yet, when the two meet again, "his shirt collar still looked slightly damp." In fact, he would have had to change—suit, shirt, collar and everything else. These points are important in a realistic story.

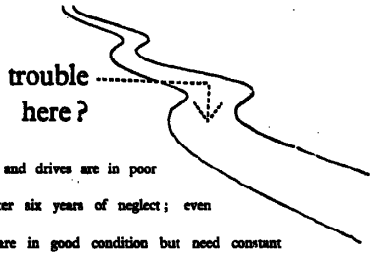
### A CLAN OF CATS

*DOMESTIC-WILD* (Animal Pictorial Books, 7s. 6d.) is an account of a cat, or rather of a clan of cats, half tame, half "walking by themselves in the wild wet woods," and all the happenings that befell them. The illustrations are snapshots in the best sense of the term, and if some fall short of technical perfection those who have stalked that most elusive quarry, our friend the cat, will agree that the author, Joy Frances Wilding, did well to secure such unposed records of those restless and often unobliging subjects. A dog will sit up when ordered to do so, and "smile and look pleasant," but not so puss, not even the most dampered of Persian ladies, still less a proud independent cat that holds itself aloof from humans and human doings.

The cats of this saga are a standoffish race, truckling to no man or woman, preferring to kill a rabbit under the trees to drinking milk under the table, and rearing many a litter of semi-wild kittens in the wood-pile or some even more remote place. They live fiercely and strenuously—the description of the battle between two toms is not only vividly written but is an accurate description, from the long-drawn-out preliminaries to the desperate climax—to die having wasted no moment of their existence. Life for them is life indeed. F. P.

### WITH GUN AND ROD

*LEAVES from a Game Book* (Hutchinson, 16s.) is an account by Major E. H. Lynn Allen of things seen and done when out with gun and rod, barren descriptions not merely of creatures shot and fish caught, but of delightful experiences in one part of the world and another. The illustrations are from sketches by the Master of Elphinstone, and they, too, are full of life and the open air, the frontispiece of an old cock red grouse in act of crying "Co-back!" being particularly characteristic, though the plate of five shovellers dropping down out of the sky on to a reedy lake is also very good. Major Lynn Allen's experiences have been gained in many parts of the world. He begins with a shooting picnic in Malaya and ends with a Christmas party in England, between which he visits France, Ireland, Egypt, India and Scotland. He has a vivid pen and is a master of description. Take, for example, his account of an early morning start by boat in Malaya, "The sun was not yet up as we cleared the island. Sea and sky seemed but two planes of soft, pale grey, enclosing us and our fussy little boat like some gigantic oyster. Our engine made the only sound there was—a puny clatter whose echoes thinned out over the glassy immensities of water and died among the quiet islets. These, towering cones of darkest green, were clothed from peaked summit to sea-girt base in dense jungle." Certainly those who enjoy reading of sport and wild life will find much to please them in these pages. F. P.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*THE COUNTRYMAN HAS A WORD FOR IT:*

***A NEST OF RABBITS***

The word 'nest' is usually associated with birds, but among country folk it can also mean a rabbit with her young. Pharmacy, too, uses words in a special sense. A 'grain', for example, is 1-480th part of an ounce in the Apothecaries' Weight by which solid drugs are compounded. You can always rely on Boots to translate your Veterinary Surgeon's prescriptions into the correct specific, from drugs of tested purity.

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*FARMING NOTES*

# PLANNING AN ORCHARD

MR. THOMAS NEAME, who is one of the best known and most successful fruit growers in Kent, gave the Farmers' Club some excellent practical points on the planning of orchards. He was talking particularly about apples and pears. It was good to find that Mr. Neame is an optimist about the future of fruit in this country, provided that the job is done efficiently throughout. He considers that, for the man who is specialising in top fruit and growing nothing else, 30-50 acres of normally planted trees will make an economic unit. Where is the best place to start? The requirements are a moderate rainfall and sufficiently mild climate, with preferably experienced labour and good rail and road facilities. Considerable elevation may give freedom from frost if the orchard is correctly sited, but also it may mean higher rainfall and later maturing, so ruling out early varieties. The Gloucestershire fruit-grower whose higher plantations are safe from frost may be at times right up in the clouds, which makes scab-control difficult. Parts of the West Country have too high a rainfall for satisfactory dessert apple production. The newcomer into fruit-growing who finds that land in the proved fruit-growing areas is firmly held and expensive may be able to do better for himself if he takes the advice of experts on the Government's advisory staff. In a venture which involves heavy capital expenditure, it is much better to buy land than to rent it. Before the war, the cost of getting an apple or pear plantation into bearing was £70-£100 an acre without the cost of the land, and to-day it is likely to be at least £200 an acre.

### *What to Grow*

AMONG apples the English Cox's Orange Pippin is unequalled by any other apple in the world, and it can be grown for sale at a reasonable price. To the Farmers' Club, Mr. Neame also commended Worcester Pearmain, the standby of many growers, which is also well known on the markets and a good eating apple if allowed to mature. We may have our own personal favourites, such as Ribston Pippin and Sturmer Pippin, and James Grieve, in the right condition, is incomparable. There are not many cooking apples that the commercial grower can produce satisfactorily. Rule out the sulphur-shy and those subject to canker, and we are left with few besides Early Victoria, Grenadier, Lord Derby and Bramley Seedling. When Bramley Seedlings come on to the market, all others take a back seat. This variety has been a most profitable investment for many growers and will continue to be so if it is not over-planted. But Mr. Neame is probably right in saying that the future lies with the dessert apple and pear. Among pears, Conference, though some may not consider it a really good pear, is a free and reliable cropper. It stores well and is recognised by the public. It is worth remembering that the pear probably appreciates a good soil more than the apple. It does not like poor drainage and it does like a mild climate, so the prospective fruit-grower who picks on the south of England for his venture should certainly grow some pears.

### *Deplorable Marketing*

OUR marketing of fruit is in many ways deplorable. When I go to the COUNTRY LIFE office adjoining Covent Garden, I always think, with Mr. Neame, that we could dispense with some of the intermediaries between the grower and his retailer, and avoid the senseless and extravagant system of off-loading produce on to the Covent Garden market, paying unnecessary tolls and porterage and loading again for the provinces, instead of sending direct. Even if packing is no cheaper on a co-operative basis, we can by large-scale grading, packing and marketing, save on transport, ensure better distribution and help the commission salesman to reduce his costs, to the ultimate benefit of growers. There is now a Fruit Packers' Council in which some of the largest growers are collaborating. This organisation also covers all the growers' co-operative marketing societies. This kind of co-operative organisation could be of service to the grower apart from selling his produce. He would gain by purchasing his requirements in bulk, and marketing societies could also in this country, as in Canada, help to organise the spraying of orchards and other cultural operations, and perhaps undertake the grubbing of worn-out or over-planted orchards and pruning for the smaller growers who have not an expert staff.

### *Phosphatic Fertilisers*

THE Government have removed all restrictions on phosphatic fertilisers and any farmer is free to try to buy through his merchants the basic slag or other phosphates that he wants. I am afraid that many who want basic slag for their pasture land will be disappointed. The output now can be no higher than during the war, and the abolition of the permit system does not mean that there will be any more slag available. Permits are still needed for the purchase of potash fertilisers. It seemed reasonable to hope with the end of hostilities that Britain would again be able to draw potash from Germany and France, where we used to get good supplies. Muriate of potash we are getting from Palestine, but evidently supplies are still restricted. This is unfortunate because many thousands of acres of light land which have been cropped hard for the past six years have run short of potash, and this deficiency will be the limiting factor in crop yields in the 1947 harvest. If more wheat is to be grown it becomes a vital matter to ensure that sufficient potash fertilisers are forthcoming by the autumn.

### *Plenty of Nitrogen*

WE owe a debt of gratitude to the manufacturers of nitrogenous fertilisers who throughout the war years have kept up a steady supply of sulphate of ammonia. Now other nitrogenous fertilisers are rather easier to get, but sulphate of ammonia must, I imagine, continue to be our stand-by. I wish that all makers of sulphate of ammonia would treat their product to prevent caking in the bags. Nothing is more tiresome than to have to spend several days in the spring breaking up sulphate of ammonia which has caked hard in the bags since it was delivered to the farm in the previous summer or autumn. I know that the Government give a rebate on early deliveries and a continuance of this rebate scheme has lately been announced, but farmers would rather pay a little more for their sulphate of ammonia and have it in proper condition for distribution when they need it in the spring. This caking is not due entirely to careless storage on the farm. I have taken pains to store early-delivered sulphate of ammonia in the approved style so as to allow the air to circulate between the stacked bags, but with certain makes of sulphate of ammonia this seems to be of no avail. Personally I am not a candidate this time for the Government's rebate on early deliveries.

CINCINNATUS.

*THE ESTATE MARKET*

# WELSH TENANTS BECOME OWNERS

SIR WATKIN WILLIAMS-WYNN has sold the Llwydiarth estate of 10,000 acres, Montgomeryshire. The property was to have been dealt with at public auction, but so many requests were made by the farmers, smallholders and others, for an opportunity of privately acquiring their holdings that the agents, Messrs. John D. Wood and Co., arranged for a conference with them. This lasted three days, and in the end it was announced that every lot had been bought by the tenants, for a total of approximately £100,000.

As soon as the sale was completed, enquiries came from many quarters concerning another part of the same vendor's vast landed possessions in North Wales, the part including and surrounding Lake Bala. These, however, were premature, for it is understood that negotiations are in progress with the Government as to the possibility of utilising part at least of that property for the purpose of defraying death duties. Lake Bala, it is felt, would form an ideal nucleus of one of the proposed national parks. It is the largest natural sheet of water in North Wales. Vyrnwy is larger, but the product of modern engineering skill for water supply. Bala water is remarkable for purity, and for its shoals of the rare gwyniad, a white-scaled fish. Spenser alluded to Bala in *The Faerie Queene*, and Tennyson, in *Gerraint and Enid*, mentioned how the south-west wind by "blowing Bala Lake fills all the sacred Dee."

### FORMER SALES BY THE CROWN

SIR WATKIN WILLIAMS-WYNN is among the largest landowners in the Principality. The estate which he has just sold came to his ancestors by marriage in 1715, but considerable areas were purchased from the Crown. That voluminous document, the Report of the Royal Commission on Land in Wales and Monmouthshire (issued in 1896) discusses at great length (pp. 208-210) the details of various sales by the Crown to Sir W. W Wynn, including the transfer of a total of 23,639 acres in the vicinity of Ruabon and Wrexham and in Merioneth, in 1856, for £8,331. The Report added: "The price charged seems small. . . . The land consisted of mountain and moorland, most of it not adapted for immediate cultivation, and no doubt subject to rights of common; but it was land parts of which were situate near to growing centres of population. . . . We are told that Sir W. W. Wynn claimed part of the parcels. We cannot say that, if the Crown be looked upon as a vendor compelled or induced by cogent prudential reasons to sell, that the Commissioners (of Woods and Forests) made a bad bargain for the Crown. But we cannot understand in this, as in many other cases, why they did sell." The Report (1896) added: "We make no reflection on the late Sir Williams-Wynn in regard to this transaction."

Except in rare and isolated instances there is no longer any excuse for the complaints of tenants which bulked so largely in the 1896 Report. Such sales as that just announced, and an earlier one this year of land in South Wales, have done much to make an end of grievances.

### LAKE DISTRICT CRAGS AND WATERS

PURSUANT to instructions from Lowther Estates, Lake District properties which have been for a long while in the possession of the Earl of Lonsdale are about to be offered. They include the summits of Little Hart Crag, which rise to over 2,000 feet; the charming little lake, Brothers Water, surrounded by woods, bright meadows and fells, filling the narrow head of Patterdale; sheep farms along the precipitous Kirkstone Pass; and other lots, among them the mediæval Hartsop Hall. If an auction has to be held, it is likely to be in less than a month's time at Penrith.

### IMPROVING ON LUTYENS?

A VENTURESOME claim is made by the agents, Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley, in the particulars of Orchards, near Godalming, that that house, designed by the late Sir Edwin Lutyens, has been "improved" by a new dining-room and "making the drawing-room very large and attractive," also by "a pink, fully-tiled bathroom." The building of Orchards, for the late Sir William Chance, took nearly four years (1899-1903). The house, of the local Bargate stone, has a 16th-century air. Miss Jekyll laid out the grounds. Orchards was the subject of an illustrated article in COUNTRY LIFE (April 11, 1908), and it is mentioned also in Chapter II of *Houses and Gardens* by E. L. Lutyens. The present vendor is Mr. Geoffrey Kennedy. There are 36 acres of freehold, 350 feet above sea level.

### NORTH-COUNTRY TENANTS BUYING

FOUR of the five farms on part of the Hetton and Haswell estates between Durham and Sunderland, were sold to the tenants. Of 22 lots, totalling 716 acres, 16 lots, together 600 acres, changed hands for over £27,000 in all. Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley held the auction, and were able to congratulate one farmer on successfully bidding for the holding that he has occupied just over 60 years.

Mr. A. V. Daborn, for 26 years with Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley, will practise on his own account there, now that the firm's temporary wartime branch at Shrewsbury has been discontinued.

### TWO BELGRAVE SQUARE MANSIONS SOLD

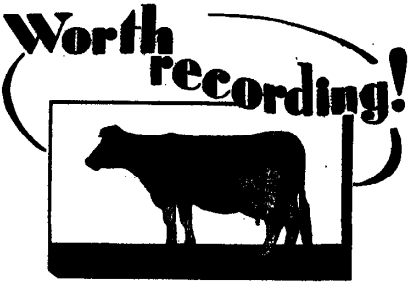
THE Duchess of Kent for some time lived in No. 3, Belgrave Square, the lease of which has now been sold by Messrs. George Trollope and Sons and Messrs. Turner Lord and Ransom. Another Belgrave Square leasehold, No. 43, which was lately held by Miss Rachel Parsons, has been sold by Messrs. George Trollope, the buyers of this house being the London Turk Halkevi (Turkish People's House).

### SALE OF A KENT COAST HOTEL

THE directors of the Southern Railway, having resolved to dispose of the Imperial Hotel, Hythe, Kent, arranged for an auction at Folkestone, and accepted the final bid, which was £20,000. The company's agents were Messrs. Alfred J. Burrows, Clements, Winch and Sons. The hotel contains 98 bedrooms, and it stands in grounds on the sea front extensive enough to include a 9-hole golf course, and many tennis courts. The Imperial ceased to be used as an hotel soon after the outbreak of the war.

Ground rents, with reversions in 37 years to Stamford Hill premises, belonging to the London Parochial Charities, realised £28,000, through Messrs. Alfred Savill and Sons.

Parsonage Farm, Henfield, Sussex, comprising house, buildings and 252 acres, has been sold for £30,750 by Messrs. Moreland Tompkins and Taylor, with possession. ARBITER.


Standalane Albert Daisybud R.M., R.M.L., owned by Messrs. Thos. Johnston & Son, Standalane, Falkirk, has produced over 50 tons of milk and in her tenth lactation gave 1,366 gallons with 3.52 per cent. b.f., in 49 weeks when 13 years old. Messrs. Johnston's attested herd headed the list of the Falkirk Recording Society with the highest percentage for Class I cows in 1944.

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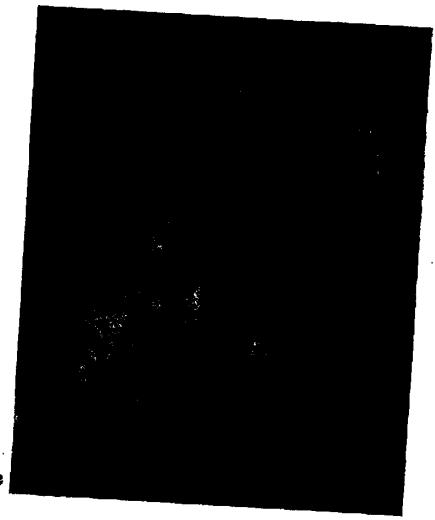
# A NEW ANGLE ON HATS

1

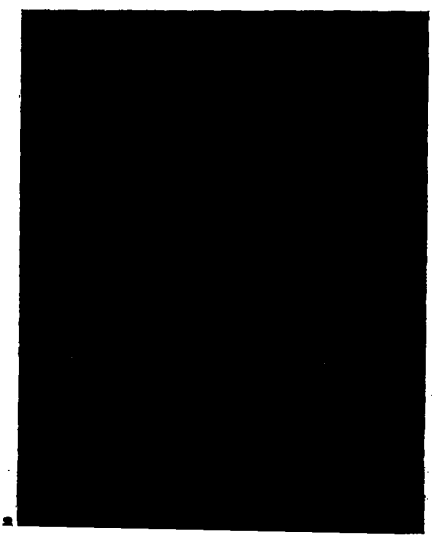


2

HATS are easily the most exciting topic in fashion at the moment. The new ones worn at the new angle are greeted with gasps of admiration or sometimes of despair by those who feel that they can never manage the backward tilt successfully or must have shade for the eyes. These new hats are revolutionary and look completely different from the first few sailors that were rather timidly tilted back by the dashing early in the year. They fit well on the head and are pinned on behind, and many require a coiffure to support them and all the hairline to show below on the forehead. The hair need not be elaborately dressed, nor is it necessary for it to be swept up on top; a short curly coiffure can look equally charming and is easier. But the hats are definitely elaborate. Pretty and ravishing are the adjectives applied. That rather hard type of chic of the "doll's hat" period is as dead as the dodo, and flowers are piled up and the crowns swathed in tulle in the beguiling manner of the Victorians. The hair is often drawn right up and into the crown of the straw caps which are rather like bearskins and have an immense *chour* of striped taffeta ribbon projecting out behind one ear; or a few curls appear round the hat which is pulled well down to the back with a rim of hair showing on the forehead.

For summer weddings and garden parties, black tulle, lace and crinoline, stiffened and ruffled like a Gaiety girl's, shaped like large mushrooms or with undulating brims that make them look like immense inverted cabbage roses on the head, are shown in black, candy pink, lilac. The flat toque of the early motoring days is another favourite. It ties on with streamers of tulle, with the flowers piled on top or an effervescence of tulle and glinting sequins below. Underneath a layer or so of tulle that does duty for a bonnet nestles a huge red rose or a cluster of rosebuds. These are hats straight out of the Family Album.

Numbers of white hats are shown for prints



3

1 Crownless bonnet of black chip straw with a flight of feathers

★

2 Maize-coloured straw, pink and red roses and cyclamen tulle and veiling

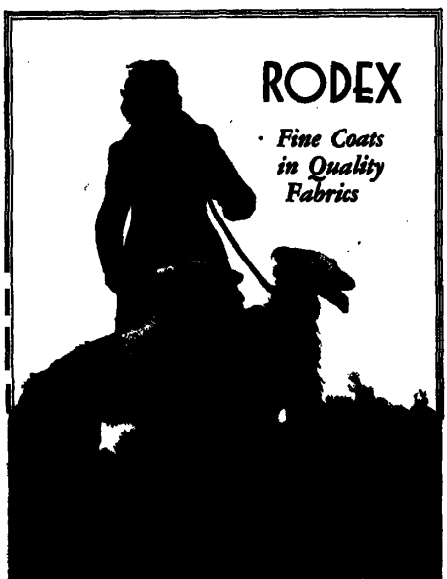
★

3 Black crinoline picture hat swathed in tulle; two pink roses

Hats from
Debenham and Freebody

Photographs:
ANTHONY BUCKLEY

Bond Street, corner of Oxford St. and at 175-176 Sloane St., S.W.1

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**Harvey Nichols of Knightsbridge**

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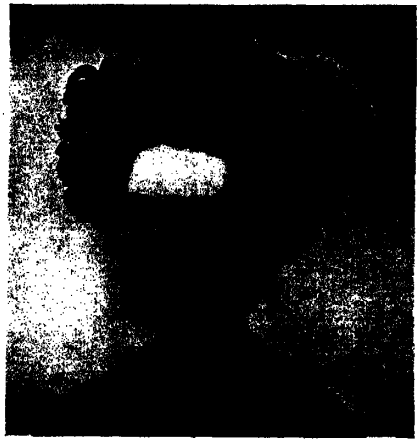
and the fashionable crêpe summer suits—small white cellophane toques massed with white roses or carnations, white chip straw or piqué boaters with floating veils, plaited straw or piqué pillboxes with white flowers either side, white tulle and horsehair bonnets foaming with ostrich feather tips.

Then there is a best-seller of a sailor in natural-coloured coarse straw, with a wider span of the flat brim from side to side than back to front, a shallow crown and a mass of pink roses and carnations in front swathed with spangled cyclamen tulle. It is worn well on top, straight or inclining very slightly backwards, and is definitely fetching with plain black or pastel summer frocks. It looks overweighted with flowers after the sparse trimmings we have been used to, and is one of the first symptoms of the more elaborate fashions that will come the moment life gets properly into its peace-time tempo. It is shown in the collection of French and London hats at Debenham and Freebody, who also have the new Schiaparelli "bowler," a felt that has a great vogue in Paris. This has the round "bowler" crown that fits it well on to the head, a rolling brim nicked in front and a veil that covers the face and has tiny black butterflies appliquéd on the edge. Debenhams show it in beige felt piped and veiled in dark brown, highly becoming and easy to wear, as the brim gives width in front over the forehead.

Miss Lucy is making pastel-coloured felts for the late summer in shades of lobster pink, Sultan gold and silver grey with blouses to match. One felt in ruby red has a rolled brim, a high crown pleated at one side and a cockade of ribbon in front.



Toque in plaited felt with glycerined feathers. Paget

NEAT straw cloche hats with a narrow rolled brim, worn tilted back showing a rim of hair on the forehead, are smart suit hats. When they are dark they are tied round with white spot veiling with the bow and ends streaming down the back; when they are white or natural-coloured they are tied with navy or black. Other straws and felts have nearly the proportions of a guardsman's bearskin, and they also should be tilted back and pinned on at the back. The first ones for the autumn in fur, felt and velvet have already appeared; for summer suits, they are straw or grosgrain and given a cockade of ribbon or a fluffy plume at one side. Then there are versions of the top-hat in felt with a veil over the face, worn dead straight and well perched on top of a bang, or slightly backwards with a short curly coiffure. Plain felts with the round crown of a hacking hat, worn at the back with the brim turned up on one side are for tweeds.

The cocktail and theatre hat is another highlight of fashion, designed for the short-skirted dinner dresses that are so fashionable. These hats are generally minute—baby bonnets of horsehair or satin wreathed in osprey, ostrich or tiny flowers. Halos of satin or grosgrain have bird of paradise or ostrich sprouting out over each ear. Coifs of black tulle are spangled; so are mantillas. Pillboxes made entirely of sequins, tilted back, have a handbag shaped like a camera case, also of sequins.

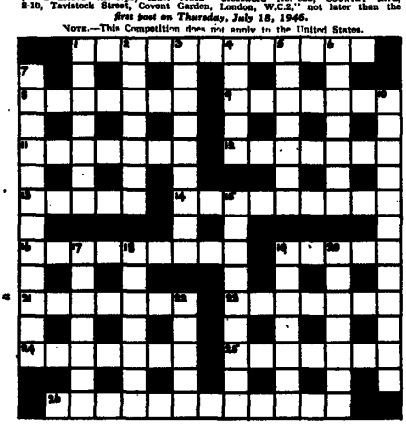
Lilla are showing real smocks again—they were not allowed to do so under austerity regulations—smocked dresses in pre-war flowered linens with large patterns on pale pink or white grounds, or in Moygashel in floral designs. They look incredibly fresh and young and are ideal for maternity dresses with matching jacket as they have an adjustable belt (self material) threaded through the gathered waistline and tying at the back.

P. JOYCE REYNOLDS.

# CROSSWORD No. 859

Two guineas will be awarded for the first correct solution opened. Solutions (in a closed envelope) must reach "Crossword No. 859, COUNTRY LIFE, 2-10, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2," not later than the *first post on Thursday, July 18, 1946.*

NOTE.—This Competition does not apply to the United States.



*Name*.....

(*Mr., Mrs., etc.*)

*Address*.....

**ACROSS**

1. Waiting-rooms (12)
8. It puts a stain on a sailor to do this (7)
9. A handy weapon for the line shooter (7)
11. Jack's bad behaviour (7)
12. In a watery belt (7)
13. They don't believe in letting things lie idle (5)
14. He invites the fish in (9)
16. Carl's at it composing (9)
19. Wife and mother of Roman Emperors (5)
21. An architectural form of head (7)
23. Wandering body (7)
24. The boys of Fleet Street? (7)
25. They supply the pep (7)
26. What his poor Lordship is likely to receive? (5, 7)

**DOWN**

1. Calm Neddy first (7)
2. Red star (anagr.) (7)
3. More than water separates him from the wild Irishman (5, 4)
4. An untiring supporter (5)
5. It puts years on the musicians wherever it is worn (7)
6. What London was after the Great Fire (7)
7. The unknown factor among the 24 (4, 3)
10. Not an aquatic dog (5, 7)
15. Being in his underclothes does not prevent the engineer from doing business (9)
17. It goes on day after day, week after week (7
18. Gives books a rest (7)
19. Sounds a lumbering sort of attachment where knots are concerned (7)
20. Train-bearer, perhaps (7)
22. One of the 24 up (5)

**SOLUTION TO No. 858.** *The winner of this Crossword, the clues of which appeared in the issue of July 5, will be announced next week.*

ACROSS.—1, Photographers; 10, October; 11, Orlando; 12 and 15, Poor devil; 14, Twit; 17, Intents; 18, Gladden; 19, Exhaus; 22, Project; 24, Tart; 25 and 26, Razorbill; 29, Round-up; 30, Extreme; 31, Beast of burden. DOWN.—2, Hotzoo; 3, Toby; 4, Gardens; 5, Adoring; 6, BBC; 7, Renewed; 8, Complimentary; 9, Fortune-teller; 13 and 16, Anglo-Saxon; 20, Hirsute; 21, Shampoo; 22, Proverb; 23, Evil eye; 27, Idas; 28, Stir.

The winner of Crossword No. 857 is

Mrs. [illegible]nderhill,
54, Whitmore Gardens,
London, N.W.10.

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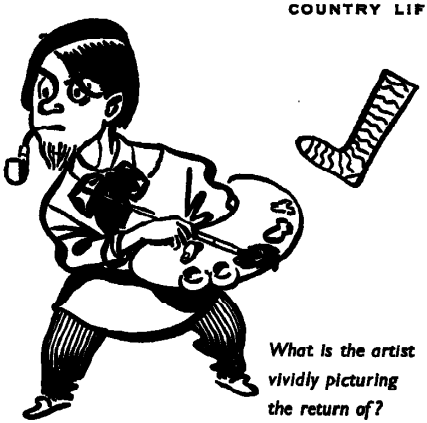

*What is the artist vividly picturing the return of?*

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## MISCELLANEOUS

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"COUNTRY LIFE," issue of March 24, 1944 required.—Berdy, Box 386.

OTHER PROPERTY AND AUCTIONS ADVERTISING PAGE 108

# COUNTRY LIFE

Vol. C No. 2583 JULY 19, 1946



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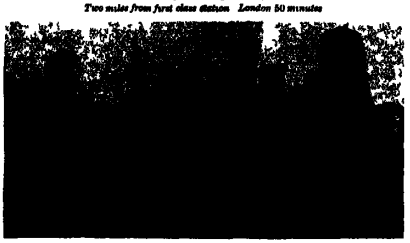
## MID-SUSSEX

*Two miles from first class station London 50 minutes*



A MOST BEAUTIFUL TUDOR RESIDENCE

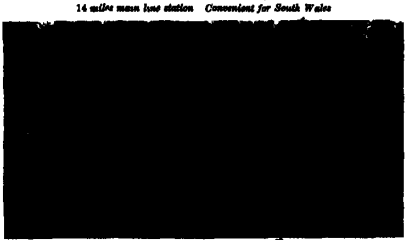
in lovely gardens Eight best bedrooms, 7 bathrooms 4 reception rooms staff rooms All main services Secondary residence 2 cottages Home farm Stream

FOR SALE WITH 150 ACRES

Highly recommended by WINKWORTH & Co 48 Curzon Street, Mayfair W 1

## GLOUCESTERSHIRE

*14 miles main line station Convenient for South Wales*



A MODERNISED STONE-BUILT RESIDENCE

Containing 13 bedrooms, 6 bathrooms 3 reception rooms. Main electricity and water Central heating Stabling Garages Lodges

ABOUT 28 ACRES. UNEXPIRED LEASE FOR DISPOSAL

Agents WINKWORTH & Co, 48, Curzon Street, Mayfair, London, W 1

# KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY

*By direction of D. MacKenzie Watkins, Esq.*

## ESSEX

**4 miles from Halstead. 7 miles from Braintree. 20 miles from Chelmsford. 47 miles from London.**

THE FREEHOLD RESIDENTIAL AND AGRICULTURAL PROPERTIES

## BAYKERS AND SOUTHEY GREEN FARM, SIBLE HEDINGHAM

BAYKERS

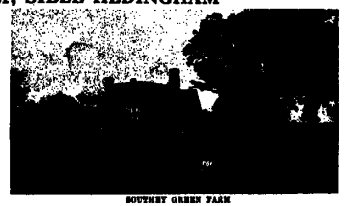
extending to about

**313 ACRES**

Vacant Possession on Completion.

**Two Tudor Residences containing a wealth of old oak and fully modernised**

Excellent range of farm buildings for a T.T. Attested Herd and two other sets of buildings. A modern bungalow and two cottages. A large glasshouse, vinery, garages, and a swimming pool.



SOUTHEY GREEN FARM

**For Sale by Auction in two Lots at the Corn Exchange, Chelmsford, on Friday, July 26, at 4 p.m. (unless previously sold).**

Solicitors, Messrs. W. A. SMITH, MORTON AND LONG, Redhurst, Coleshaw Road, Halstead.

Auctioneers: Messrs. BALLS & BALLS, Castle Headingham, Essex, and Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. Illustrated Particulars and Plan Price 1/-.

*By direction of the Exors. of the late Mrs. E. I. Hartford.*

## SOUTH-EAST HAMPSHIRE

**Winchester and Southampton both about 8 miles. Sheltered position facing south-west.**

## SNAKEMORE HOUSE, BOTLEY. 168 ACRES.

The Freehold Residence is erected of mellowed red brick and is approached by two drives, one being ½ mile, with lodge.

Hall, 3 large reception rooms and small study, polished oak floors, billiards room, 14 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, kitchen with Esse cooker.

Electric light. Good water supply. Separate hot-water. Modern drainage.

Stabling, garages, farm buildings. Three cottages, including lodge (2 in service occupation).

Timbered pleasure grounds, 2 tennis courts, terraced lawns, prolific kitchen garden, 2 large copses.

**ABOUT 148 ACRES**

of which 80 acres is in hand.

Also 2 enclosures and market garden land.

Vacant possession of house and lands in hand.

For Sale by Auction at the Royal Hotel, Winchester, on Friday, July 26, at 3 p.m. (unless previously sold).

Solicitors: Messrs. FRESHFIELDS, 1, Bank Buildings, Princes Street, E.C.2.

Auctioneers: Messrs. RICHARD AUSTIN & WYATT, 1, The Avenue, Southampton, and Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, 20, Hanover Square, W.1. Particulars price 1/- each

Mayfair 3771 (10 lines)

**20, HANOVER SQUARE, LONDON, W.1**

Telegrams: "Galleries, Wesdo, London."

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Regent 0322/3577
Reading 4449

# NICHOLAS

(Established 1888)

4, ALBANY COURT YARD, PICCADILLY, W.1: 1, STATION ROAD, READING

Telegrams: "Nicholator, Piccy, London" "Nicholas, Reading"

*By direction of The Lord Parmoor*

## "PARMOOR," FRIETH

IMPORTANT FIVE DAYS' SALE OF THE WHOLE OF

THE CONTENTS OF THE MANSION

comprising costly modern and antique furniture, linen, fine porcelain, old silver and plate, old English and Irish glass, the pictures, the library of books, rare carpets and rugs

**which will be sold by Auction on the premises on July 22 and the four following days.**

Illustrated catalogues, price 2/6 each of the Auctioneers: Messrs. NICHOLAS, 4, Albany Court Yard, Piccadilly, W.1, and Station Road, Reading.

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OXFORD 4527/8

# JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK

OXFORD AND CHIPPING NORTON

CHIPPING NORTON 39

## HAMPSHIRE—SUSSEX BORDERS

*(London 45 miles).*

**A Most Attractive RESIDENTIAL AND SPORTING ESTATE**

Queen Anne style Residence containing, briefly, lounge hall, 3 reception rooms, good domestic offices, 14 principal bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, and servants' accommodation. Electric light, ample water supply, central heating; telephone. Stabling, garages and farm buildings. Beautiful old barn, suitable dancing; squash racquets court; guest's cottage. Five other cottages.

Delightful pleasure grounds, enjoying lovely views, kitchen gardens, orchard, woods and plantations (affording good shooting); arable and pasture land, in all about

**414 ACRES. FOR SALE FREEHOLD**

with vacant possession upon completion.

Recommended by JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, Oxford.

## CADLE POOL, NEAR STRATFORD-ON-AVON

*In delightful surroundings, about 2 miles north-west of the town.*

**An Unique SMALL COUNTRY ESTATE of Character and Charm**

Exceptionally attractive old Brick and Tile Residence, splendidly fitted and planned for easy working, with 4 reception rooms, 9 bed and dressing rooms (with fitted basins, h. and c.), 3 bathrooms, well-appointed modern kitchen with Aga cooker and convenient domestic and staff quarters. Main electricity, excellent water and drainage; central heating; telephone. Gardens of finished scale and natural charm. Garage for 3 cars and ample outbuildings. Three superior modern cottages. Well-planned model farm buildings, all with electricity and water supplies. First-class pasture, highly productive arable and small area of woodland, in all about

**210 ACRES**

To be SOLD BY PUBLIC AUCTION at The Town Hall, Stratford-on-Avon, on Friday, July 26, 1946 (unless sold privately meanwhile).

Particulars from the Joint Auctioneers: JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, Estate Offices, Rugby; and WALKER, BARNARD & SON, Union Chambers, Stratford-on-Avon.

# HAMPTON & SONS

**6, ARLINGTON STREET, ST. JAMES'S, S.W.1**

Regent 8222 (15 lines) Telegrams: "Selanlet, Piccy, London"

## HASLEMERE, SURREY

*Exceptional position 550 feet up with a lovely view.*

CHOICE RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY

with a modernised house in beautiful condition. Drawing room 30 x 22, library 24 x 16, billiards and music room. Nine bedrooms, 4 bathrooms.

CENTRAL HEATING. MAIN SERVICES. LODGE. 2 COTTAGES.

Lovely matured grounds, the whole extends to about

9 ACRES

*HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1* (*Regent 8222*) (B.29,045)

In convenient and secluded position facing south.

## BUCKS, FARNHAM COMMON

*About 3½ miles from Slough with its frequent service of trains to Town.*

FOR SALE FREEHOLD, ATTRACTIVE OLD RESIDENCE

enjoying unsurpassed views to Windsor Castle, etc. Lounge, 3 reception rooms, 5 principal and 4 secondary bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Companies' services. Two Garages and Stable premises.

The beautifully laid out and exceptionally well kept gardens are a feature Tennis and croquet lawns, bowling green, productive kitchen garden and orchard, about 3½ ACRES

Further land of about 4 ACRES may be had.

*Full details from HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1* (*Regent 8222*). (H.48,578)

## SUSSEX DOWNS, EASTBOURNE

*At foot of Downs, having wide sea views.*

DETACHED RESIDENCE

with spacious and well-kept gardens. Three reception, 5 bed and 1 dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms; Aga cooker.

MAIN SERVICES. DOUBLE GARAGE. STABLING. GREENHOUSE.

All modern conveniences.

VACANT POSSESSION

*Apply Messrs OAKDEN & CO., 24, Cornfield Road, Eastbourne, or HAMPTON AND SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1* (*Regent 8222*). (C.49,910)

## SURREY

A BEAUTIFUL MODERN FREEHOLD RESIDENCE

THREE GABLES, WEST DRIVE, WENTWORTH, VIRGINIA WATER, SURREY

*Actually adjoining and practically surrounded by the famous golf course. Full south aspect. Lovely view Dry sandy soil.*

Eight bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, oak principal and a secondary staircase, spacious hall and lounge, drawing room 34 ft. x 25 ft., dining room 36 ft. x 19 ft., and compact offices all on only two floors.

Central heating. Fitted wash basins. Companies' services.

Double garage with rooms over. Span glasshouse.

Delightful gardens, stone paved terrace. Loggia and rose garden, in all nearly

2 ACRES with vacant possession.

HAMPTON & SONS will sell the above by Auction at The London Auction Mart, 155, Queen Victoria Street, E.C.4, on Tuesday, July 30, 1946, at 2.30 (unless previously sold).

*Solicitors: Messrs TROWER, STILL & KEELING, 5, New Square, Lincoln's Inn, W.C.2. Particulars from the Auctioneers: HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, S.W.1* (*Regent 8222*).

BRANCH OFFICES: WIMBLEDON COMMON, S.W.19 (WIM. 0081) BISHOP'S STORTFORD (543)

SUNNINGHILL, BERKS.

# MRS. N. C. TUFNELL, F.V.A.

ASCOT 818

## CHOBHAM, SURREY

*3 miles from Sunningdale Station, 4½ miles from Woking.*

CHARMING COUNTRY RESIDENCE

in completely rural surroundings. Part dating back to 1700. Throughout in excellent order.

Eight bed and 2 dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms and lounge hall, kitchen with Aga cooker, maid's sitting room, etc. Main electric light, Co.'s water. Modern drainage. Double garage, stabling for 4. Large barn and extensive range of other outbuildings. Brick and tiled cottage with 5 rooms in good order.

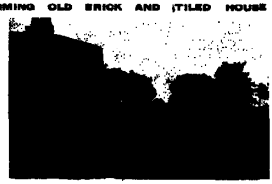
Together with 22 ACRES of pleasure gardens, grounds, orchard and land.

FREEHOLD £12,000 as a whole or £8,500 for house with 6 acres.

## BUCKS

*Within easy reach of London, 6 miles from Windsor.*

PARTICULARLY CHARMING OLD BRICK AND TILED HOUSE



Throughout in excellent order. Seven bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms and lounge hall. Cloakroom.

COMPANIES' ELECTRICITY, GAS AND WATER.

MODERN DRAINAGE. GARAGE FOR 3 CARS.

Together with about 2 ACRES of garden and land, laid out in lawns, ornamental and water gardens, productive kitchen garden, etc.

FREEHOLD £8,500

# JAMES HARRIS & SON

WINCHESTER Tel.: 261

ATTRACTIVE GEORGIAN STYLE RESIDENCE

## BETWEEN WINCHESTER AND BASINGSTOKE

Lounge hall, 4 reception rooms, 10 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms.

CENTRAL HEATING. ELECTRIC LIGHT. ESTATE WATER.

EXCELLENT COTTAGE.

Garages. 2 paddocks. 4 loose boxes.

20 Acres

VACANT POSSESSION £8,250

Particulars from JAMES HARRIS & SON, Jewry Chambers, Winchester.

*By order of the Executors.*

IN THE TEST VALLEY

## HAMPSHIRE

*4 miles from Andover and 10 from Winchester.*

A CHARMING COUNTRY RESIDENCE

delightfully situated in the old-world village of Longparish

"MEADOW LAWN," LONGPARISH

Entrance hall, 3 reception, 6 bedrooms, bath, Company's electricity, garage, stabling, excellent cottage.

1½ Acres

For Sale by Auction, July 25, 1946, with Vacant Possession.

Particulars (price 6d.) from Messrs. SHEPHERD, SON & BARBER, Salisbury, Andover, or Messrs. JAMES HARRIS & SON, Auctioneers, Jewry Chambers, Winchester.

Regent 4906

# OSBORN & MERCER

MEMBERS OF THE CHARTERED SURVEYORS' AND AUCTIONEERS' INSTITUTES

23b, ALBEMARLE ST PICCADILLY, W 1

**Near MAIDENHEAD**

*In a secluded position close to a village green and with south aspect*

**AN ATTRACTIVE BRICK-BUILT HOUSE**

completely remodelled and modernised at considerable expense

Three reception rooms 10 bedrooms 5 bathrooms. *Main Electricity and Water Central Heating*

Cottage, stabling, 3 garages

Well-disposed grounds including rose garden orchard kitchen garden pasture etc

The River Bourne runs through the grounds, which extend to ABOUT 8½ ACRES

FREEHOLD £10,500 WITH VACANT POSSESSION

Inspected by Sole Agents Messrs OSBORN & MERCER (17709)

**GUILDFORD**

*Situate in a quiet position about 300 ft above sea level near to an old village*

**A Delightful XVIth Century Farmhouse**

with a wealth of old oak and in first-rate order

Lounge hall 2 reception rooms 7 bed and dressing rooms 2 bathrooms

Co 'n electricity, gas and water Garage for 3 cars

The charming old gardens have been well maintained and there are lawns flower and kitchen gardens orchard etc in all ABOUT 1¼ ACRES

*FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH EARLY POSSESSION*

Agents OSBORN & MERCER as above (17707)

**CUMBERLAND**

*IN THE BEAUTIFUL WEST WATER AREA OF THE LAKE DISTRICT*

The remaining portions of the

**IRTON HALL ESTATE**

comprising —

THREE CAPITAL FARMS
SMALL COUNTRY RESIDENCE
SEVERAL COTTAGES
EXTENSIVE WOODLAND
AND ACCOMMODATION LAND

*About 2½ miles of Salmon and Trout Fishing in the River Irt*

The whole extending to about

**926 ACRES**

For Sale by Auction in 21 Lots at

THE PARISH HALL DRIGG

on TUESDAY, 30 JULY, 1946 at 2 30 p m

(unless previously sold by Private Treaty)

Solicitors MESSRS ERNEST G SCOTT & CO 31 2 Broad Street Avenue Bloomfield Street E C 2

Auctioneers MESSRS OSBORN & MERCER 23b Albemarle Street London W 1

**SURREY (under 25 miles from Town)**

*Occupying a quiet position in the delightful Ringwood district within a few minutes walk of the station*

**AN ATTRACTIVE MODERN HOUSE**

with 3 reception rooms 7 bedrooms bathroom

Companies electric light, gas and water

Large garden but this has been ploughed up during the war and will have to be entirely remade

PRICE FREEHOLD £5,750

POSSESSION NEXT DECEMBER.

Inspected by Sole Agents Messrs OSBORN & MERCER (17710)

**A Lovely Old Tudor House in Glos.**

*Occupying a fine position adjoining a golf course and National Trust land commanding magnificent views*

*COMPLETELY RESTORED AND NOW IN FIRST CLASS ORDER.*

3 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms 3 bathrooms

Electric light, excellent water supply (mains available) Central heating

Fine Old Barn Garage Outbuildings

Delightful pleasure gardens grass terraces ponds vegetable garden orchards woodland and pasture in all

**ABOUT 39 ACRES**

*FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH POSSESSION*

Inspected and recommended by OSBORN & MERCER as above



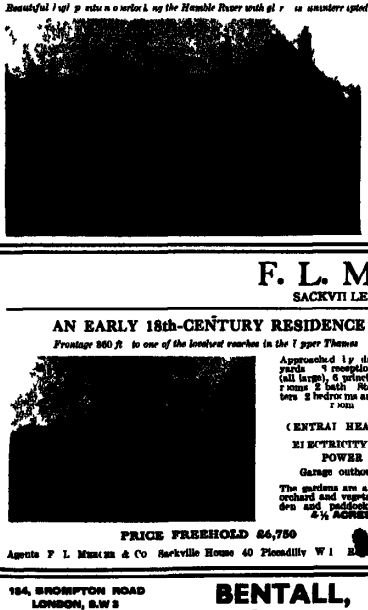
3, MOUNT ST, LONDON W 1

# RALPH PAY & TAYLOR

Grosvenor 1626-32

**OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO YACHTSMEN**

*Beautiful high position overlooking the Hamble River with glorious unobstructed views across the Solent to the Isle of Wight*



Long river frontage close to hard

Attractive Residence of character with Georgian features Entrance and inner hall 3 reception rooms 12 bedrooms 4 bathrooms Main electricity and water central heating Garages Pair Two cottages Small farm Matured gardens and grounds in all about 16½ ACRES

FREEHOLD FOR SALE MOST REASONABLE PRICE

Sole Agents RALPH PAY & TAYLOR 3 Mount Street W 1

**BERKS—OXON BORDERS**

UNIQUE 13th-CENTURY RESIDENCE OF GREAT HISTORICAL INTEREST Skilfully adapted and modernised Great hall with minstrels gallery 3 reception rooms 10 bedrooms and dressing rooms 3 bathrooms Main electricity Central heating Aga cooker Stabling garages Two cottages Old world gardens Fine old trees wall gardens orchard in all ABOUT 7 ACRES

REASONABLE PRICE ACCEPTED FOR QUICK SALE

RALPH PAY & TAYLOR as above



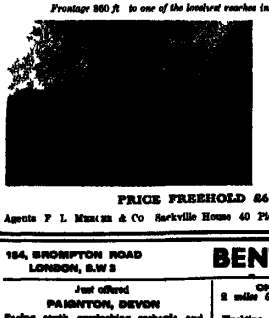
# F. L. MERCER & CO.

Regent 2481

SACKVILLE HOUSE 40 PICCADILLY W 1

**AN EARLY 18th-CENTURY RESIDENCE**

*Frontage 360 ft to one of the loveliest reaches in the Upper Thames*



Approached by drive 220 yards 4 reception rooms (all large), 6 principal bedrooms 2 bath Staff quarters 2 bedrooms and bath room

CENTRAL HEATING

ELECTRICITY AND POWER

Garage outhouses

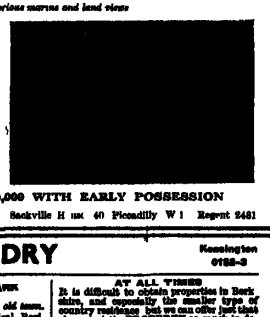
The gardens are a feature orchard and vegetable garden and paddock, in all 4½ ACRES

PRICE FREEHOLD £6,750

Agents F L Mercer & Co Sackville House 40 Piccadilly W 1 Regent 2481

**SUFFOLK COAST, ON A GOLF COURSE**

*Glorious marine and land views*



Well appointed modern house within easy reach of favourite resort Accommodation on two floors only

Oak panelled hall 3 reception rooms 2 baths 8 bedrooms

All main services central heating

Garage flat over Small walled garden

FREEHOLD £10,000 WITH EARLY POSSESSION

Agents F L Mercer & Co Sackville House 40 Piccadilly W 1 Regent 2481



184, BROMPTON ROAD LONDON, S.W 3

# BENTALL, HORSLEY & BALDRY

Kensington 0152-3

**Just offered**

**PAIGNTON, DEVON**

Facing south overlooking orchards and farmlands.

Charming House of character, 3 reception, 7 bedrooms, bath Main electricity and every convenience Standing in gardens ½ ACRE. Further land might be had.

IMMEDIATE POSSESSION

FREEHOLD £8,000

Quick inspection advisable

**CONSHOTTER, SUSSEX**

*2 miles Goodwood Race Course 9 miles Bognor*

*Yachting centre of Bosham and Itchenor*

**WELL-BUILT RESIDENCE**

Long drive approach. Lounge hall 3 reception 6 bed, 3 baths Main electric water and gas. Garage Cottage

11 ACRES

VACANT POSSESSION

FREEHOLD ONLY £7,500

Sole Agents BENTALL, HORSLEY AND BALDRY as above

**IN LOVELY SMALL PARK NORFOLK**

*30 miles London adjoining quaint old town.*

Dignified and somewhat historical Residence of great character, approached by short avenue 4 rec., 8 or 10 bed. 3 bath rooms Main electricity and water Central heating. Fine old garden and beautifully timbered park

10 ACRES

FREEHOLD ONLY £7,500

or might be sold with garden only about 1 Acre.

Immediate possession.

BENTALL, HORSLEY & BALDRY 184, Brompton Road, S W.3 (Tel. Ken. 0152)

**AT ALL TIMES**

It is difficult to obtain properties in Berkshire, and especially the smaller type of country residence but we can offer just that characteristic PROPERTY so much in demand and situated in a most beautiful part It enjoys a secluded position 300 feet up with south aspect, adjoining a Common and commands lovely views It contains 3 reception 6 bedrooms bath, and has main electric light, water by gravitation and central heating garage Stabling charming garden with thousands of bulbs, bordered by a clear running brook, orchard and meadows in all 12 ACRES FREEHOLD £4,500

Excellent condition

BENTALL HORSLEY & BALDRY, as above.

Grosvenor 1553 (4 lines)

# GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS

(ESTABLISHED 1770)

25, MOUNT ST., GROSVENOR SQ., W.1

Hobart Place, Eaton Sq., West Halkin St., Belgrave Sq., and 27, Victoria St., Westminster, S.W.1

## AN UNIQUE LITTLE PROPERTY OF 22 ACRES

*Half-hour of London, yet amidst perfectly rural surroundings.*

Luxuriously fitted and appointed at total pre-war cost of over £30,000.

Six bed and dressing, 3 bath, 4 reception rooms. All mains. 30 radiators, all oak floors, panelled rooms throughout fitted basins, completely tiled and rubber floored bathrooms and offices.

Garage, 3 lakes, meadow and woodland.

Recommended by GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, London, W.1. (Gros. 1553). (20311)

## SALES BY AUCTION on JULY 24 at 2.30 p.m.

*at The London Auction Mart, 155, Queen Victoria Street, E.C.4.*

### THE CROSSWAYS, COBHAM

Modern House in delightful setting and perfect seclusion, containing 7 bed, 2 dressing, 2 bath, 3 reception. Main electricity and water. Garage, stabling. COTTAGE. Gardens and paddock. 8 ACRES.

### UPLANDS, FARNHAM

Favourite Tilford district. Well-appointed Country House in excellent order, occupying fine position and containing 9 bed., 2 bath., 3 reception, billiards. Main services. Garages, stabling. PAIR OF COTTAGES. 10 ACRES. For Sale in two Lots.

Particulars from the Auctioneers: GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W.1.

TOTTENHAM COURT RD., W.1 (Euston 7080)

# MAPLE & Co., LTD.

5, GRAFTON ST., MAYFAIR, W.1 (Mayfair 4685)

*By direction of H. M. Caldwell, Esq.*

## MID-SUSSEX

*In beautiful district, fine views of Sussex Downs. 3½ miles Haywards Heath. Electric train service to Victoria, 45 minutes' journey, and under 50 miles from Town.*

PAYNESFIELD, ALBOURNE, NR. HAYWARDS HEATH

A delightful property ideal for hunting box. Accommodation: Large hall, lounge, drawing and dining rooms, library, maids' sitting room, 9 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Electric light (own plant), Companies' gas and water. Radiators, etc. Two garages. Stabling for 6. Two cottages. Fine barn, etc.

Delightful matured, shady garden, fine old trees, lawns, etc., and four enclosures in all about 30 ACRES.

To be Sold by Auction during August unless sold privately beforehand.

Joint Auctioneers: Messrs. BANNISTER & Co., Haywards Heath, or MAPLE & Co., LTD., as above (Tel.: Regent 4685)

THE ESTATE HOUSE MAIDENHEAD

# CYRIL JONES

F.A.I., F.V.A.

Maidenhead 2032/4

## A PERFECT RIVERSIDE COTTAGE

*With every modern convenience.*

5 bedrooms (4 with basins), bathroom, 2 reception rooms, 2 having oak panelled walls. Oak floors.

Garage for 2. Lovely garden of 1½ acres with En-tout-cas hard tennis court.

260 ft. river frontage with boat house having pavilion over.

Companies' services.

FREEHOLD £10,500

Sole Agent: CYRIL JONES, F.A.I., F.V.A., Estate House, Maidenhead.

### BERKS

*Adjoining lovely commons.*

Small luxury residence in perfect condition. 8 bed and dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, modern offices. Garage and stabling. Matured grounds of 1 acre. All services.

FREEHOLD FOR SALE WITH POSSESSION

Agent: CYRIL JONES, F.A.I., F.V.A., Estate House, Maidenhead.

### COOKHAM DEAN, BERKS

*On a southern slope.*

Superbly situated small country residence. 6 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms. Cottage. Central heat. Double garage. Stabling. 5 acres. Hard tennis court. Vinery. Beautifully appointed throughout.

ATTRACTIVE PRICE FREEHOLD WITH POSSESSION

Owner's Agent: CYRIL JONES, F.A.I., F.V.A., Estate House, Maidenhead.

### BOURNE END, BUCKS

*Fronting the River Thames and with views over open commons to Winter Hill.*

An attractive modern riverside cottage home. 6 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 reception rooms. Garage for 2. Shady garden with lawns to water's edge. Companies' services. Designed for easy upkeep.

FOR SALE PRIVATELY OR BY AUCTION AUGUST 29, 1946

Auctioneer: CYRIL JONES, F.A.I., F.V.A., Estate House, Maidenhead.

# TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley St., W.1

Grosvenor 2861 Telegrams: "Cornishmen, London."

85 ACRES

SOMERSET. Lovely country 8 miles Tiverton. Superior Farmhouse, modernised, 5 bedrooms, bath., 2 reception. Electric light. Gravitation water (main expected shortly). Garage, stabling, farm buildings, including cowshed for 12, etc. Land mostly pasture, some arable, and few acres wood. Would sell with live and dead stock, etc.—TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (21709)

HISTORICAL RESIDENCE. 7 ACRES.

OXFORD 9 MILES. In beautiful old village on gravel. Secluded lovely 15th-CENTURY HOUSE in excellent order. Great hall with minstrels' gallery, 3 reception, 3 bathrooms, 6-10 bedrooms. Main electricity, hot water and central heating (thermostatic controlled). Telephone. Aga cooker. Garages, stabling. Cottage. Beautifully timbered grounds, lawns, flower beds, walled kitchen and fruit gardens, 2 greenhouses, orchard. Second cottage and wet and dry boathouses nearby can also be had.—TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (22,254)

FRONTAGE TO BEAUTIFUL REACH OF THE THAMES

MAIDENHEAD just over mile station. Charming Riverside Residence in good order. Three reception, sun room, 2 bathrooms, 5 bedrooms. All main services, central heating. Telephone. Gardens and lawns to water's edge with LANDING STAGE AND BOATHOUSE. £8,000 with possession September.—TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (22046)

16TH-CENTURY FARMHOUSE £12,000

GUILDFORD 2½ miles. Bus passes property. Near Downs and golf. Really choice old Residence of Character in excellent condition, with old oak beams, staircase and other features, but good bedroom. Three reception, 2 bath, 7 bedrooms (2 b. and c.). All main services, water softener. Double garage. Charming garden, stone paths, rose garden, kitchen and fruit garden, orchard. About 1½ ACRES.—TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (22456)

S. W. SANDERS, F.V.A.

# SANDERS'

MARKET PLACE, SIDMOUTH.

T. S. SANDERS, F.V.A.

## EAST DEVON

*1 mile old Market Town. 4 miles sea.*

Attractive thatched Country Residence with lounge hall and 2 other sitting rooms, cloakroom, maid's sitting room, kitchen with electric cooker, good offices, 4 bed and 2 dressing rooms, bathroom, main electricity, medium sized garden. Immediate possession. Good fishing.

FREEHOLD £6,750

## SIDMOUTH

Nice position. Modern well-planned detached Residence. Large lounge, dining room, cloakroom, good offices, 4 bedrooms, bathroom, garage.

FREEHOLD £4,500.

5, MOUNT ST., LONDON, W.1

# CURTIS & HENSON

Grosvenor 3131 (3 lines) Established 1875

## PICTURESQUE ELIZABETHAN HOUSE IN RURAL SUFFOLK

*Within easy reach of Woodbridge.*

PERFECT PERIOD ARCHITECTURE

Oak panelling. Antique fireplaces. Modernised and well-equipped 19 bedrooms, 6 bathrooms, halls, 4 reception rooms, fine billiards room.

ELECTRIC LIGHT. AMPLE WATER SUPPLY.

Outbuildings with enclosed courtyard. Garages with flat over. Stabling.

*Twelve miles from Ipswich.*

CHARMING OLD GARDENS

Park-like surroundings

ABOUT 26 ACRES

UNIQUE SITUATION FOR USE AS A SCHOOL OR OTHER INSTITUTION. POSSESSION BY ARRANGEMENT.

FREEHOLD FOR SALE. MODERATE PRICE.

Personally inspected by the Owner's Agents: CURTIS & HENSON, as above.

Grosvenor 2625 (2 lines)

# TURNER LORD & RANSOM

127, MOUNT ST., LONDON, W.1

Telegrams: Turloran, Audley, London.

*By direction of The Rt. Hon. Lord Fairhaven.*

One of the best equipped and maintained Lesser Estates in Surrey!

## PARK CLOSE, ENGLEFIELD GREEN

*Adjoining and with beautiful views over Windsor Great Park*

Eight principal bed and dressing rooms in suites, 5 secondary bedrooms, 7 bathrooms, servants' rooms, 4 reception rooms, halls, cloak rooms, modern domestic offices.

MAIN WATER, ELECTRICITY AND DRAINAGE. CENTRAL HEATING. BEAUTIFUL GROUNDS. Stream, tennis lawns, wooded glades, swimming pool, pergola, walled kitchen garden, in all 25 ACRES.

Garages for 8 or 9 cars. Chauffeurs' quarters. Laundry premises with staff rooms. Fine block of POLO PONY STABLING, Hack stables, grooms' rooms. Cottage residence. Other cottages. Lodge.

FREEHOLD. FOR SALE BY AUCTION

in September next (unless previously disposed of by private contract).

Auctioneers: Messrs. TURNER LORD & RANSOM, 127, Mount Street, London, W.1, and Messrs. BIDWELL & SONS, 2, King's Parade, Cambridge.

## PERFECT SECLUSION ON THE HERTS AND BUCKS BORDERS

*300 ft. up on the Chiltern Hills. Between Berkhamsted and Chesham. 1 hour London.*

An Old-World BLACK and WHITE FARMHOUSE

The accommodation, entirely on 2 floors, comprises:

3 RECEPTION, 7 BEDROOMS, 4 BATHROOMS.

MAIN ELECTRIC LIGHT AND WATER

3 GARAGES WITH ROOM OVER. STABLING.

OLD-WORLD GARDENS with fine holly hedges.

2 ACRES FREEHOLD Just in the Market for Sale

# FAREBROTHER, ELLIS & CO.

Central 9344/5/6/7

Established 1799

AUCTIONEERS, CHARTERED SURVEYORS, LAND AGENTS.

29, FLEET STREET, LONDON, E.C.4

Telegrams: "Farebrother, London"

## CAMBERLEY

*About a mile from town and station. Southern aspect.*

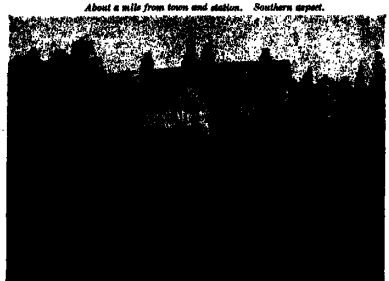
AN ATTRACTIVE HOUSE

5 PRINCIPAL BEDROOMS, 3 STAFF ROOMS, 3 BATHROOMS, 4 RECEPTION ROOMS.

MAIN SERVICES.

TWO BUNGALOWS.

GARAGE AND STABLING.



Well-timbered grounds with lawns, tennis court and extensive kitchen garden, in all about

6 ACRES

FREEHOLD £9,500

(subject to contract).

Further particulars from Agents: Messrs. FAREBROTHER, ELLIS & CO., 29, Fleet Street, E.C.4. Cen. 9344.

## KENT & SUSSEX BORDERS

*400 ft. up. Magnificent views. An hour from London. On the borders of a well-known common.*

WELL-APPOINTED HOUSE

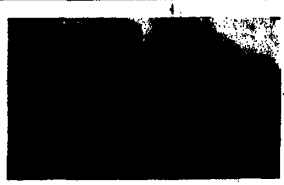
Double drawing room with folding doors to large dining room, 10-12 bedrooms. Pleasure gardens. Walled kitchen garden. Orchard. Meadowland. Garage accommodation. Farm buildings. Stables with service accommodation over. Main services.

IN ALL ABOUT 10 ACRES

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

View by appointment. No Agents.

Full particulars from the Solicitors



MESSRS. LE BRASSEUR & OAKLEY, 40, CAREY STREET, LINCOLN'S INN, W.C.2.

23, MOUNT ST., GROSVENOR SQ., LONDON, W.1

# WILSON & CO.

Grosvenor 1441

## LOVELY PART OF SUSSEX

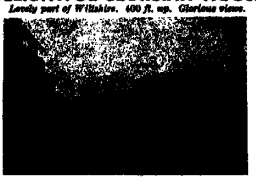
*Delightful unspoiled country, 40 miles London.*

SINGULARLY CHARMING OLD PERIOD HOUSE completely modernised and in first-rate order. Seven bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception. Wealth of old oak and other features. Main services. Central heating. Garage. Finely timbered gardens, kitchen garden, etc. £8,500 WITH 1½ ACRES. VACANT POSSESSION.

Sole Agents: WILSON & CO., 23, Mount Street, W.1.

## DELIGHTFUL GEORGIAN HOUSE

*Lovely part of Wiltshire. 400 ft. up. Glorious views.*

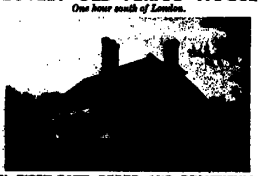


SET WITHIN LOVELY OLD GARDENS AND FINELY TIMBERED PARK. 10-11 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, 4 reception. In first-rate order. Electric light, central heating, etc. Stabling. Garages. Home farm (54). Four cottages. A small estate of most attractive character. £115,000 WITH 104 ACRES.

Agents: WILSON & CO., 23, Mount Street, London, W.1.

## LOVELY OLD PERIOD HOUSE

*One hour south of London.*



IN FIRST-RATE ORDER AND BEAUTIFULLY APPOINTED, WITH DUE SOUTH ASPECT. Nine bed and dressing rooms, 4 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, excellent domestic offices, fine music room 45 ft. x 23 ft. Central heating, main water, electric light, h. and c. in all principal bedrooms. Three excellent cottages. FOR SALE WITH 30 ACRES. House would be sold with small area. Agents: WILSON & CO., as above.

LONDON CAMBRIDGE

# R. C. KNIGHT & SONS

LAND AGENTS

NORWICH STOWMARKET

*By direction of the owner.*

*Overlooking the sea in the most select part.*

## LOWESTOFT

"BRIAR CLYFFE"

THE MAGNIFICENT MARINE RESIDENCE. 12 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms. Lovely modern panelling. Superbly fitted throughout. Garages. Riding stables. Chauffeur's flat. Delightful gardens. Freehold. 4¼ ACRES. VACANT POSSESSION.

Solicitors: Messrs. GREENLAND HOUGHTON & CO., 10, Bank Street, Norwich.

Auction in August at Norwich.

*By direction of Mrs. Sourbeck.*

## In a LOVELY SUFFOLK FISHING VILLAGE

*Southwold 1 mile.*

"THE WILDERNESS," WALBERSWICK

ARCHITECT DESIGNED RESIDENCE. 7 bedrooms, bath, 1 reception rooms. Garage, etc. VACANT POSSESSION. Solicitors: PARTRIDGE & WILSON, Bury St. Edmunds. Auction at Ipswich, July 30, 1946, at 3.30 p.m.

*By direction of the Executors of Mrs. K. M. Davies, deceased.*

## NORTH NORFOLK

*In a famous Bird Sanctuary area.*

THE OLD CUSTOM HOUSE, CLEY

FASCINATING OLD HOUSE with lovely old Georgian white wood panelling in almost every room. 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms. VACANT POSSESSION.

Solicitors: YOUNG JACKSON BEARD & KING, 2, Old Burlington Street, London, W.1.

Auction July 20, 1946, at Norwich.

*By direction of Mrs. H. J. Bidwell-Wilson.*

## NORTH NORFOLK

*In the favoured King's Lynn Area.*

CHURCH CLOSE, BURNHAM MARKET

REGENCY PERIOD COUNTRY HOUSE. 6 bedrooms, bathroom, 3 reception rooms. Main electricity. 2 cottages. Garages, etc. 4 ACRES. VACANT POSSESSION.

Solicitors: Messrs. MILLS & REEVE, 74, Upper Close, Norwich.

Auction September 7 at Norwich.

### ESSEX-SUFFOLK BORDERS

LOVELY SMALL TUDOR RESIDENCE. 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms. Main services. Much beautiful old oak. Matured gardens. ¾ ACRE.

VACANT POSSESSION.

FREEHOLD £5,750.

### NEAR THE SUFFOLK COAST

DELIGHTFUL GEORGIAN FAMILY RESIDENCE. 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms. 2 cottages. Garage. 2 tennis courts and gardens. 2¾ ACRES.

VACANT POSSESSION.

FREEHOLD £6,500.

### NORFOLK-SUFFOLK BORDERS

HISTORIC AND DELIGHTFUL OLD TUDOR MANOR HOUSE. 7 bedrooms, 2 reception rooms. Main water. 2 cottages. Farm buildings. 293 ACRES. First-rate land. VACANT POSSESSION.

Further particulars of any of the above upon application to Messrs. R. C. KNIGHT & SONS, 2, Upper King Street, Norwich (Tel. 24280, two lines); 6, Half Moon Street, London, W.1 (Tel.: Grosvenor 3351); Market Place, Stowmarket (Tel. 384/5), and 1, Guildhall Street, Cambridge (Tel. 54238/4).

TELEPHONES: SEVENOAKS 2247-8 OXTED 240 REIGATE 2938

# IBBETT, MOSELY, CARD & CO.

SEVENOAKS, KENT OXTED, SURREY REIGATE, SURREY

## SEVENOAKS

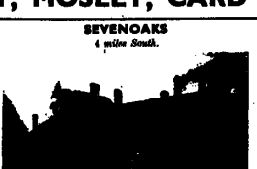
*Convenient for Town and Station.*

THE ATTRACTIVE MODERN RESIDENCE known as "HIRANDA," Hitchen Hatch Lane, Sevenoaks, Kent. 8 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, lounge, 2 reception rooms. Excellent offices, etc. 2 ACRES. Tennis court. Swimming pool. For Sale by Auction at Sevenoaks, on Wednesday, July 31, 1946.

*Illustrated particulars from: IBBETT, MOSELY, CARD AND CO., 125, High St., Sevenoaks, Kent (Tel. 2247/8), or NIGHTINGALE & LEE, 20, High St., Tunbridge Wells (Tel. 452), and at Bexhill-on-Sea.*

## SEVENOAKS

*4 miles South.*



A VERY ATTRACTIVE SMALL COUNTRY ESTATE. Lounge hall, 4 reception rooms, 13 bed and dressing rooms, 5 bathrooms, excellent domestic offices. Co.'s water and electricity and central heating. Garage and stabling. Walled garden. Entrance lodge and cottage. MODERN FARMERY, etc. In all about 88 ACRES. PRICE FREEHOLD £26,000.

*Owner's Sole Agents: IBBETT, MOSELY, CARD & CO., 125, High Street, Sevenoaks (Tel. 2247/8).*

## AN ABSOLUTE BARGAIN

*700 ft. high above Reigate, adjoining National Trust Land; full south aspect.*

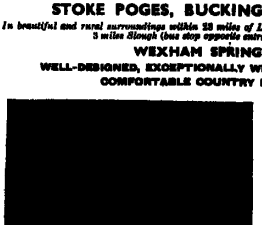
EMINENTLY SUITABLE FOR RESIDENTIAL HOTEL, Office, Scholastic or Institutional purposes. 2 miles Reigate, amidst beautiful country on the Downs. 1½ miles from the famous Walton Heath Golf Course. Imposing brick-built residence, 18 bed and dressing, 5 bath, 5 reception, billiards room; about 6½ ACRES. Main electricity and water. Modern drainage. Central heating. FREEHOLD £3,500. Vacant Possession on completion. Additional land. *Further details of Vendor's Agents: IBBETT, MOSELY, CARD & CO., Reigate (Tel. 2268 & 2703).*

## STOKE POGES, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

*In beautiful and rural surroundings within 23 miles of London, 4 miles Gerrards Cross, 3 miles Slough (bus stop opposite entrance gates).*

WEXHAM SPRINGS

WELL-DESIGNED, EXCEPTIONALLY WELL FITTED AND COMFORTABLE COUNTRY HOUSE



Containing: 4 reception rooms, 12 bed and dressing rooms (all except one, with lavatory basins), 3 bathrooms, central heating, main water and electricity. Excellent stabling and garage accommodation.

The beautifully laid-out gardens and wooded grounds are a great feature of the property, which is in exceptionally good repair and condition.

Also 4 cottages, 3 level enclosures of pasture, the whole extending to approximately 21 ACRES.

PRICE FREEHOLD (with Vacant Possession except for 3 of the cottages) £17,000, or the house would be sold with part only of the land.

Apply: Messrs. WHATLEY, HILL & CO., Estate Agents, 34, Ryder Street, St. James's, S.W.1. Tel.: Whitehall 4611.

# A. P. R. NICOLLE, F.A.I.

Telephone: 4554

62, FLEET STREET, TORQUAY

## SOUTH DEVON

NEAR TOTNES. Charming RESIDENCE OF CHARACTER with fine panoramic views over distant country. Three reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, bathroom, kitchen with Aga cooker. Garage. Well-timbered grounds of about 4 ACRES. The Torquay-Plymouth bus passes end of drive. Price £7,250 FREEHOLD.

## RIVER DART

294-ACRE FARM in picturesque village with ½ mile frontage to well wooded creek. GEORGIAN STYLE HOUSE having south aspect and containing 3 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, bathrooms, kitchen with Ideal Cockbanner. Main electricity, gravitation water supply. STABLING. Good farm buildings with power and electric light. Two cottages. VACANT POSSESSION. Price £15,250 FREEHOLD.

## URGENTLY WANTED

COUNTRY PROPERTIES of character (or modern) in good condition with vacant possession in all parts of Devon and the South-West, for a long waiting list of genuine applicants who are still unsolicited; 4-10 bedrooms, £4,000-£20,000.

OWNERS OR THEIR SOLICITORS are invited to communicate in confidence with A. P. R. NICOLLE as above.

FOR PROPERTIES IN DEVON AND SOUTH-WESTERN COUNTIES

Telegrams: "Wood, Agents, Wesdo. London."

# JOHN D. WOOD & CO.

23, BERKELEY SQUARE, LONDON, W.1

Mayfair 6941 (10 lines)

FOR SALE PRIVATELY

The exceptionally attractive Residential, Agricultural and Sporting

## ESTATE OF ORCHIL

*Perth 18 miles, Stirling 13 miles, Crieff 6 miles.*

The Residence stands in wooded policies and is approached by 2 drives and contains 4 reception, 6 principal and 5 secondary bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, servants' accommodation and good domestic offices. Aga cooker, main electric light and power, central heating. Garage for 5 cars. Walled garden.

Nine estate cottages. Seven well-let arable farms and a Home Farm in proprietor's occupation.

Grouse and mixed shooting. Trout fishing. Plantations of larch, Scots and spruce, and hardwood timber.

IN ALL ABOUT 2,000 ACRES.
RENTAL £1,215 18s. 4d.

Further particulars from CURRIE MACKENZIE & CO., W.S., 75, George Street, Perth, and JOHN D. WOOD & CO., 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1.

*Under instructions from Lady Clayton-East, J.P.*

## BERKSHIRE

*20 miles from London*

### HALL PLACE, HURLEY

On a plateau above the Thames between Marlow and Henley, TO BE SOLD WITH ABOUT 145 ACRES OR UP TO 265 ACRES. This noted Early Georgian Mansion in the centre of a most beautiful park approached by an ancient lime avenue. Original panelling and chimney-pieces; comprehensively modernised with main electricity, water and central heating. Entrance and staircase halls, 13 ground floor rooms, 16 principal bedrooms and 7 others, 7 bathrooms.

Fine courtyard with 5 garages and 6 loose-boxes. Five-roomed groom's cottage; walled garden and gardener's cottage. Centuries old grounds with yew hedges. Small farmery.

VACANT POSSESSION OF THE MANSION AND GROUNDS

Full particulars from the Sole Agents: CLAUDE W. BRIGHTEN, Esq., F.S.I., Chartered Land Agent, Bank Chambers, 41, Queen Street, Maidenhead, and JOHN D. WOOD & Co., 23, Berkeley Square, London W.1.

*By direction of the Trustees of the Rt. Hon. the Viscountess St. Cyres, deceased.*

## WALHAMPTON HOUSE, LYMINGTON, HAMPSHIRE

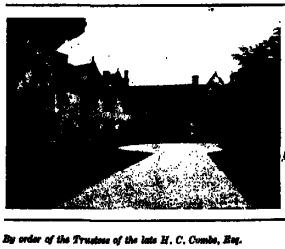
*situate on the edge of the New Forest, facing the Isle of Wight, and commanding magnificent views of the Solent over its own beautifully timbered parklands.*

### A BEAUTIFUL AND HISTORICAL QUEEN ANNE RESIDENCE

completely modernised with every modern requirement and luxuriously appointed throughout. Approached by 2 principal drives and containing central hall and magnificent suite of reception rooms, 20 bed and dressing rooms, 6 bathrooms, complete offices, etc. Companies' electric light and water. Modern drainage. Central heating. The gardens and grounds are of exceptional beauty. Three lakes. Walled kitchen garden. Stabling and orchard. Home farm. Snook Farm. Several cottages and smaller houses.

FOR SALE, WITH VACANT POSSESSION OF THE MANSION, GROUNDS, AND SOME COTTAGES

Further particulars of the Joint Sole Agents, RAWLENCE & SQUAREY, Land Agents, Salisbury, or JOHN D. WOOD & Co., 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1.



## ONE OF ENGLAND'S MEDIÆVAL HOMES OF HISTORIC INTEREST AND ONE OF THE MOST BEAUTIFUL IN DORSET

### 15TH-CENTURY MANSION OF RARE ARCHITECTURAL BEAUTY

Carefully restored and modernised, and containing halls, banqueting hall, library, drawing room, green room, and dining room. 10 principal bedrooms including nursery suite, 9 bathrooms and secondary accommodation, complete and modern domestic offices, etc. Main electric light. Excellent water supply. Central heating. Stabling, garage, kennels, etc. Six cottages. Beautiful pleasure, fruit and kitchen gardens. Home Farm with farmhouse and buildings. Two miles of trout fishing.

The whole property extends to ABOUT 350 ACRES, and is for Sale with Vacant Possession of the Residential Portion, the Farm being let, but possession could be had if required.

Further particulars of the Agents: JOHN D. WOOD & Co., 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1. (60,907)

*By order of the Trustees of the late H. C. Combe, Esq.*

## SURREY

*London 18 miles, Esher 5, and Guildford 9 miles. Celebrated as one of the finest examples of Landscape Gardening*

### THE IMPORTANT AND NOTED RESIDENTIAL ESTATE, PAIN'S HILL, COBHAM

Lovely 18th-century Residence in unique position. Five reception, ballroom, 20 bed and dressing rooms, 5 bathrooms, modern services, ample offices. Stable and garages. Home farm. Five cottages. Kitchen gardens, charming grounds. Bounded by the River Mole. Beautiful park. Lake of 15 acres. Valuable woods.

IN ALL ABOUT 237 ACRES

Ideally situated for good development with unrivalled sites

VACANT POSSESSION OF RESIDENCE AND GROUNDS.

FREEHOLD. For Sale privately (or by Auction later) as a whole or the Residence with a smaller area. Particulars and plans from Land Agents: STRUTT & PARKER, 48, Russell Square, W.C.1; Auctioneers: JOHN D. WOOD AND Co., 23, Berkeley Square, W.1.

BOURNEMOUTH:
WILLIAM FOX, F.S.I., F.A.I.
R. STODDART FOX, Ph.B.Sc., F.A.I.
H. IBBETT-FOX, F.A.S.I., A.A.I.

# FOX & SONS

LAND AGENTS
BOURNEMOUTH—SOUTHAMPTON—BRIGHTON

SOUTHAMPTON:
ANTHONY R. FOX, F.S.I., F.A.I.
T. BRIAN COX, F.A.S.I., A.A.I.
BRIGHTON:
A. ELLVINGTON, F.A.L.P.A.

*By order of Executors. H. W. Ryden deceased.*

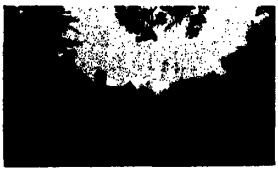
## WEST SUSSEX

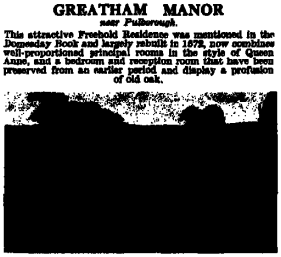
*Overlooking the Valley of the Arun and South Downs. 3 miles from Storrington, 4 miles from Pulborough Station, with excellent train service to London.*

### GREATHAM MANOR

*near Pulborough.*

This attractive Freehold Residence was mentioned in the Domesday Book and largely rebuilt in 1672, now combines well-proportioned principal rooms in the style of Queen Anne, and a bedroom and reception room that have been preserved from an earlier period and display a profusion of old oak.





ACCOMMODATION: 6 bedrooms, dressing room, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, usual offices. ENTRANCE LODGE AND COTTAGE, 3 garages, stabling and good outbuildings.

MAIN WATER. ELECTRICITY FROM PLANT.

EFFICIENT DRAINAGE.

THE CHARMING GROUNDS include:

WALLED PLEASURE AND KITCHEN GARDENS together with PADDOCKS that extend to the River Arun the whole comprising about

**14 ACRES**

**FOR SALE BY AUCTION at the TOWN HALL, HORSHAM, on TUESDAY, 27th AUGUST 1946, at 3 p.m. (unless previously sold by private treaty)**

Solicitors: MESSRS. ROBBINS, OLIVEY & LAKE, 216, Strand, London, W.C.2.
Auctioneers: FOX & SONS, 117, Western Road, Brighton. Tel. Hove 2277/7279.

## HAMPSHIRE

*In the heart of the beautiful New Forest.*

**With excellent sporting and social facilities**

Erected some 11 years ago to the design of a leading architect, the Residence is particularly well planned and possesses many pleasing constructional refinements. The internal decorations are rich and tasteful throughout.

6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, lounge hall, 3 reception rooms. Excellent offices and outbuildings. Two double garages and chauffeur's room.

A short distance from the Residence, adjacent to the sweeping main entrance drive, is an ATTRACTIVE DETACHED LODGE

The gardens and grounds which are mainly devoted to pasture extend to about

**5 ACRES**

**PRICE £12,000 FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION**

For particulars apply to: FOX & SONS, 2/3, Gibbs Road, Above Bar, Southampton. Tel. Nos. 3941/2.

## CHILWORTH, HAMPSHIRE

*About 3 miles from Southampton and Romsey and within 9 miles of Winchester.*

**A UNIQUE MODERN RESIDENCE of CHARACTER, in a delightful setting**

4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, oak-panelled hall, cloakroom and offices.

DOUBLE GARAGE.

Company's electric light, gas and water. Modern cesspool drainage.

On high ground and commanding extensive views of the surrounding countryside, the Residence occupies a charming woodland setting with delightful gardens and grounds of about

**2 ACRES**

**Price for this Long-Leasehold Property**

**£7,000**

**VACANT POSSESSION**

Particulars from the Sole Agents: FOX & SONS, 2/3, Gibbs Road, Above Bar, Southampton. Tel. Nos. 3941/2.

**ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL RESIDENCES ON THE SHORES ON POOLE HARBOUR**

## SANDBANKS, NEAR BOURNEMOUTH

*Perfectly situated facing the beautiful Poole Harbour and possessing extremely valuable and highly important frontage to the water. 5 miles from Bournemouth and the historic town of Poole.*

**The magnificently situated Freehold Marine Residence**

**"NORTH HAVEN POINT"**

8 bedrooms, dressing room, bathroom, 3 reception rooms, complete domestic offices. Also

Three particularly fine Building Sites adjoining (all with harbour frontage and uninterrupted views), and opposite **8¼ ACRES** extremely valuable Leasehold Building Land. All public services.

VACANT POSSESSION on completion of the purchase.

To be Sold by Auction at St. Peter's Hall, Hinton Road, Bournemouth, on July 31, 1946, at 3 p.m.
Solicitors: Messrs. VANDERCOM, STANTON & Co., 35, Spring Gardens, Trafalgar Square, London, S.W.1.
Auctioneers: Messrs. FOX & SONS, 44-52, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth.

*By order of Sir Arthur Du Cros, Bart.*

## WEST SUSSEX COAST

**BEAUTIFUL SITUATION WITH PRIVATE FORESHORE RIGHTS**

### CRAIGWEIL MANOR

**ABOUT 2 MILES WEST OF BOGNOR REGIS.**

*An exceptionally attractive and secluded House on the sea shore (250 ft. frontage) and approached by a drive.*

Lounge hall, 3 reception rooms, loggia and sun room, 9 bed and dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms. Central heating. All main services. Annexe adjoining, which can be used with or independently of the house, with 3 additional bedrooms, bathroom and sitting room. Two garages. Gardener's cottage. Delightful wooded gardens and grounds with terrace, lawns, rose and flower gardens.

**IN ALL ABOUT 2¼ ACRES**

(additional land if required)

**FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH EARLY POSSESSION**

Joint Sole Agents: Messrs. FOX & SONS, 117, Western Road, Brighton. Tel.: Hove 2277. Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, 20, Hanover Square, W.1. Tel.: Mayfair 3771.

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## SOUTHERN ISLE OF WIGHT c.2

*Standing high in a fold of the Downs facing south and enjoying panoramic views of the surrounding country and the coastline down as far as Portland.*

### SUBSTANTIAL STONE-BUILT HOUSE

Four reception, 7 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, main water and electricity. Garage, stabling. Gardens of about 2½ acres. Paddock 5½ acres.

### IN ALL ABOUT 8 ACRES

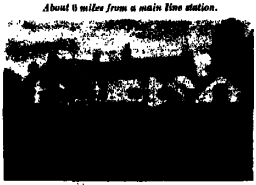
### PRICE FREEHOLD £6,750

VACANT POSSESSION.

HARRODS LTD., 34-36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1 (*Tel.: Kensington* 1490. *Extn.* 809.)

## A FAVOURITE PART OF ESSEX c.4

*About 6 miles from a main line station.*



### GENUINE 15TH-CENTURY RESIDENCE

modernised regardless of cost and retaining all its original features. Large lounge, 2 other reception rooms, 5 bed and dressing rooms 2 bathrooms, complete offices. Electric light, central heating, main water, modern drainage. Garage for 4 cars. Large barn or playroom. Other useful outbuildings. Beautiful grounds, undulating lawns, kitchen garden, pasture land.

### IN ALL ABOUT 11 ACRES

### For Sale with Early Possession

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## NORTH DEVON, WHERE TAW AND TORRIDGE MEET c.2

### SUBSTANTIAL AND ATTRACTIVE RESIDENCE

*Occupying a unique position and commanding extensive views of the river and countryside.*

Three reception, 8 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, main water, electricity, central heating, wash basins in bedrooms. Garage, Outbuildings. GARDENS AND GROUNDS.

### ABOUT 2 ACRES. FREEHOLD £7,000

Additional 6 acres adjoining, together with cottage, can be had for a further £3,500.

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## GLORIOUS NORTH DEVON c.3

*Amidst beautiful unspoilt country, convenient to a village, between Barnstaple and Tiverton.*

### ATTRACTIVE GEORGIAN RESIDENCE

Hall, 3 receptions, 7 beds., bathroom, electric light, garage, 2 cars, useful outbuildings, matured gardens and grounds, with ornamental shrubs, fruit trees, vegetable garden, in all nearly

### 2 ACRES. PRICE ON APPLICATION

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## CHISLEHURST c.5

*Well-wooded situation, yet within easy reach of station and buses.*

### MODERN DETACHED RESIDENCE

in Queen Anne style. Four reception, 6 bed., 2 bath., main services, central heating, garage, charming garden, lawn, ornamental trees, herbaceous borders, etc.

### FOR SALE FREEHOLD

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## ON THE SPUR OF THE HERTFORDSHIRE CHILTERNS c4

*Within daily access of London with beautiful unspoilt surroundings.*

### ATTRACTIVE MODERN HOUSE

with entrance hall, 3 large reception rooms, 7 bed and dressing rooms, bathroom, complete offices. Electric light, Co.'s water, partial central heating, gas. Telephone. Garage for 3 cars. Other useful outbuildings.

ATTRACTIVE BUT INEXPENSIVE GROUNDS with lawns, herbaceous borders, paddock, kitchen garden.

### IN ALL 3 ACRES. £8,000 FREEHOLD

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## KENT, NEAR CANTERBURY c.3

### CHARMING 15th-CENTURY RESIDENCE

*Approached through fine Tudor gateway.*

Ground floor, 3 reception rooms. Six bedrooms, dressing room, bathroom, electric light and modern conveniences. Capital outbuildings, matured gardens with orchard, paddock, in all

### ABOUT 7 ACRES, FOR SALE FREEHOLD

HARRODS LTD., 34-36, Hans Crescent, S.W.1. (*Tel.: Kensington* 1490. *Extn.* 807.)

## SUFFOLK c.4

*Favourite Woodbridge district.*

### FASCINATING OLD CHARACTER RESIDENCE

Hall, 3 large reception, 8 to 10 bed and dressing, bathroom, complete offices. Co.'s water and electric light.

Central heating. Bungalow, garage, useful outbuildings. Inexpensive grounds, tennis and other lawns, walled kitchen garden, paddock.

### In all 10 ACRES ONLY £5,500 FREEHOLD

HARRODS LTD., 34-36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1. (*Tel.: Kensington* 1490. *Extn.* 806.)

## THE WILLOWS, ESPLANADE, FRINTON-ON-SEA c.4

### SUITABLE FOR HOTEL, FLATS OR SIMILAR PURPOSES

*Superb position on the sea front, five minutes from the Golf Club and tennis courts.*

### A PARTICULARLY ATTRACTIVE MODERN FREEHOLD RESIDENCE

containing 4 reception rooms, 16 bed and dressing rooms, 5 bathrooms, central heating, all main services. Garages and 2 flats. Delightful grounds, 2 tennis courts, fine kitchen garden.

### IN ALL OVER 2 ACRES

### VACANT POSSESSION

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and at RINGWOOD & ROMSEY

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**THE CANTERTON MANOR ESTATE**

Comprising a beautifully timbered island site in the forest with about

**157 ACRES**

A well-built Family Residence with gardens and outbuildings.

*SIX COTTAGES.*

**To be offered for SALE BY AUCTION at an early date.**

Particulars in due course from RAYMOND E. FREARSON, Solicitor, Skegness, Lincs., or from the Auctioneers, WOOLLEY & WALLIS, as above

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2/- per line. (Min. 3 lines.) Box fee 1/6.

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**ISLE OF WIGHT**

In a unique situation facing over the Solent, with most beautiful views of Cowes Harbour and Yachting Anchorage, Southampton Water, and the Hampshire Coast, and having a very long frontage to East Cowes Esplanade.

**MARVIN & SONS, LTD.**

will Sell by Auction at Cowes, I.W., on *WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14, 1946*, the commanding and attractive FREEHOLD RESIDENTIAL AND AGRICULTURAL PROPERTY known as

**THE SPRINGHILL ESTATE**

East Cowes, including the well-designed Residence, with lodge, two approach drives, and well-timbered pleasure grounds, together with the farm, comprising excellent range of buildings, two cottages, pair of semi-detached houses facing the Esplanade, and valuable agricultural land; the whole extending to **ABOUT 70 ACRES**, with VACANT POSSESSION of practically the whole estate.

Particulars may be obtained of the Solicitors, Messrs. TUNBRIDGE & CO., 115, Colmore Row, Birmingham 3, or with orders to view, of the Auctioneers, at their offices, Princes Buildings, Cowes, I.W.

*By direction of Lady Dhunjibhoy Bomanji.*

**THE WILLOWS, OAKLEY GREEN, NEAR WINDSOR**

The costly FURNITURE AND EFFECTS including choice white-painted bedroom furniture, Chippendale, mahogany and other chairs, settees, etc., mahogany dining and other tables, gilt-framed and other mirrors, numerous Wilton pile carpets, Persian rugs, glazed chints and other curtains, etc., which

**GIDDYS**

are entrusted to Sell by Auction on the premises on TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY, AUGUST 6, 7 and 8, 1946.

Catalogues in due course of the Auctioneers, at their offices, Station Approach, Maidenhead, and at Windsor, Slough and Sunningdale.

*Re Walter Davies, deceased.*

**WEST WALES**

Choice compact small Residential Estate

**CWMRHUDDAN, LLANDOVERY, CARMARTHENSHIRE**

(one mile good market town and station, main line L.M.S.) Charming freehold stone-built Country Residence (3 rec., 7 bed., 2 bath.), attractive garden and orchard, beautifully timbered grounds, garage and stabling, main electricity, telephone, superior modernised lodge, **50 ACRES** first-class grazing land and woodland, home farm (**71 ACRES**). Fishing and shooting on property. Golf and hunting in immediate district. Magnificent views of Towy Valley. VACANT POSSESSION of residence and lodge. For Sale with or without home farm. Auction Sale, July 26 (if not sold privately). Particulars from

**D. J. THOMAS, F.A.I.**

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**D. T. M. JONES**

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**RAMSGATE AND DEAL (BETWEEN).** To Let Furnished. Part of modernised Tudor House, 4 bedrooms, lounge, dining room, bathroom, usual offices; all mains; golf and bathing.—Box 368.

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**WEST END ONLY 30 MINUTES.** To eliminate the problems and difficulties of domestic work it is proposed to construct 15 SELF-CONTAINED FLATS in a Mansion standing high with panoramic views, surrounded by park land, only 30 minutes from the West End. These exclusive Flats will contain one or two bedrooms, reception and bath, central heating and constant hot water, hard tennis court, squash court, stabling for 10, under management. Garage accommodation per flat. Coarse fishing in the grounds. Golf 2 miles. Rentals from £200 to £375 per annum on lease. Magnificent dining room and club room restricted to tenants and their guests. Club licence will be obtained. Catering at £4 10s. per head per week.—Those interested write to Box 370.

## WANTED

**ANYWHERE IN GOOD HUNTING COUNTRY PREFERRED.** Required, Unfurnished Portion Country House. Very early period. One large room essential, 3-4 bedrooms. Isolated position. Refs.—Box 302.

**CARDIFF**, approximately 20 miles radius. Reasonable rent offered for Country House or Villa, 3-4 bedrooms, garage, electric or gas, etc. Preferably with some land or paddock attached.—LAMB, 1, St. Isan Road, Heath, Cardiff.

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**WINCHESTER NEIGHBOURHOOD.** Widow of senior officer would like to rent part of Country House, unfurnished; self-contained.—Box 371.

## FOR SALE

**BEDFORDSHIRE.** Charming small country Residence, in a splendid position 7 miles from Bedford, 1 mile from L.M.S. main line station, standing in 2 acres of ground. Brick and white plastered House with thatched roof, hall, fitted cloaks, dining and sitting rooms, kitchenette, 3 bedrooms, bathroom, main electricity and water, septic tank drainage, garage, summer house, lawns, rose-beds, paddock. Price, Freehold, £4,000.—Apply, PEACOCK, Bedford.

**BERKS.** Lovely Queen Anne Village House with wonderful old gardens for Sale by Auction during July. Convenient position between Newbury and Reading. 7-8 beds., 2 baths, 3 reception. Electricity. Central heating. Main water and drainage. Garages for 3. Vacant possession.—A. W. NEATE AND SONS, Estate Agents, Newbury.

**BUCKS.** Suitable Riding School or Private Stables and dwelling house, beautifully situated in the Chalfonts. 23 miles London, converted from original 17th-century barn. *Lounge, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, kitchen, etc.* 6 modern loose-boxes, schooling ring, thatched brick barn, valuable cherry orchard and lovely matured Chinese garden, in all 3½ acres. Further grazing available. Freehold, with immediate possession, including furniture, curtains, carpets, light fittings, etc. Price £6,500.—RABURN & CO., Solicitors, 3 and 4, Clements Inn, W.C.2.

**CAMBRIDGESHIRE-ESSEX BORDERS** Within 9 miles of Cambridge, 15 miles of Newmarket and 44 miles of London. Hinxton Hall, an attractive country house. Five reception rooms, billiards room, 9 principal bedrooms, 5 secondary bedrooms, 5 servants' bedrooms, 5 bathrooms. Central heating. Main electricity, good water supply. Standing in well-timbered park. For Sale with Early Possession, either with 16 acres and 1 cottage, or 55 acres and 4 cottages.—Apply, Messrs. BIDWELL & SONS, Chartered Surveyors, Head Office, 2, King's Parade, Cambridge, or at 49, St. James's Street, London, S.W.1.

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## FOR SALE

**DORKING.** At the foot of Boxhill. Attractive freehold Country Residence containing 8 bed, 2 bath, 4 rec. rooms, garage premises, chauffeur's cottage and outbuildings, together with delightful secondary Cottage-Residence, extending in all to about 9½ acres. Main services. Vacant possession of the residence and grounds on completion.—Apply, Messrs. *HEWETT & LEE, Land Agents*, 144, High Street, Guildford, and at Farnham.

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**OLD-WORLD PETERSHAM.** Magnificently appointed architect-built 1939 detached double-fronted Residence. Quite unique and possessing great charm and character. Special features: central heating, parquet floors, lavatory basins in all bedrooms, exquisite all-green bathroom, w.c. and cloakroom, etc., 4 large bedrooms, bathroom, 2 reception, spacious oak panelled hall, model offices. Garden of ⅓ acre with pond, rockeries, etc. Recently re-decorated. Freehold £8,000.—Sole Agents: SCOTTS, 121, Church Road, Barnes. RIV. 3416.

**SURREY-SUSSEX BORDERS.** Pretty old-world Residence. Four bed., bath., 3 rec. Excellent kennels and stabling 35 acres. Only wants seeing. £8,500 Freehold.—POWELL & PARTNER, LTD., Forest Row (Tel. 204).

**SUSSEX.** Burgess Hill. Attractive Georgian Residence in pretty rural setting suitable for School, Nursing Home, etc. Comprising: 14 rooms, several bathrooms, ground floor domestic offices. Other buildings include class-rooms, gymnasium, chapel, garage, stabling, greenhouse, etc. Grounds over 6 acres. £7,000.—REASON & TICKLE, 20-21 East Street, Brighton.

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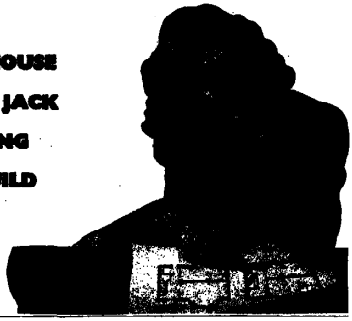
THE HOUSE THAT JACK IS GOING TO BUILD



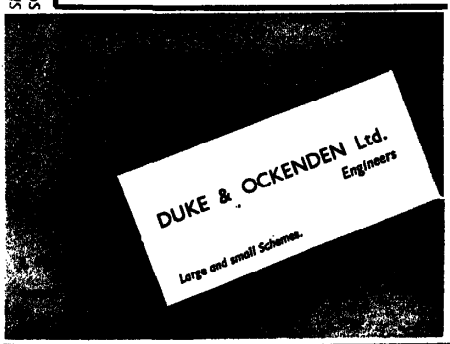
Dreaming of a little place of your own? Planning just how you'll have the furniture and what colour you'll choose for the curtains? Well, now is the time to start bringing those "castles in the air" down to earth—by putting something by each week in National Savings Certificates.

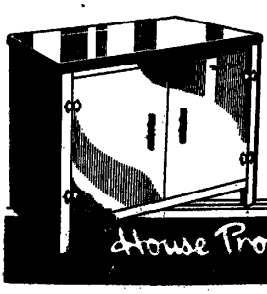
Don't fritter away your Savings. Wait for the big occasion. Every 15/- certificate earns you 5/6d. in ten years time and this increase is free of Income Tax.

Easy to buy—Easy to hold—Easy to cash.

*Buy and hold* NATIONAL SAVINGS CERTIFICATES

EVERY £1 INVESTED WILL HELP TOWARDS THE NATIONAL TARGET OF £520 MILLIONS



"House Proud" for the Modern Kitchen

House Proud Kitchen Furniture is here, in high grade Steel, Aluminium, and Vitreous Enamel topped. It's colourful, it's substantial, it's modern, it's essentially practical. The name is a Guarantee of lifetime service, finest quality and value for money. Ask for it at leading Furnishing Houses and Stores.

"House Proud"

1 TO BE READY—

2 TO BE STEADY—

3 TO BE OFF!

NOW, whilst fresh fruit is plentiful, is the time to get down to fruit-bottling in real earnest thus ensuring varied, delicious health-giving dishes throughout the difficult winter months. Do it the Graham Farish Snap Vacuum Closure way, with jam jars . . . . quick . . . . cheap . . . . sure.

SNAP-CLOSURES

2/6 Plus 5d. purchase tax per carton of twelve. 1-lb. or 2-lb. size. Obtainable everywhere.

GRAHAM FARISH LTD BROMLEY AND STAPLEHURST, KENT

BRISTOL: Perry Road. MANCHESTER: 9 South King Street

*Dare I say this to my husband?*

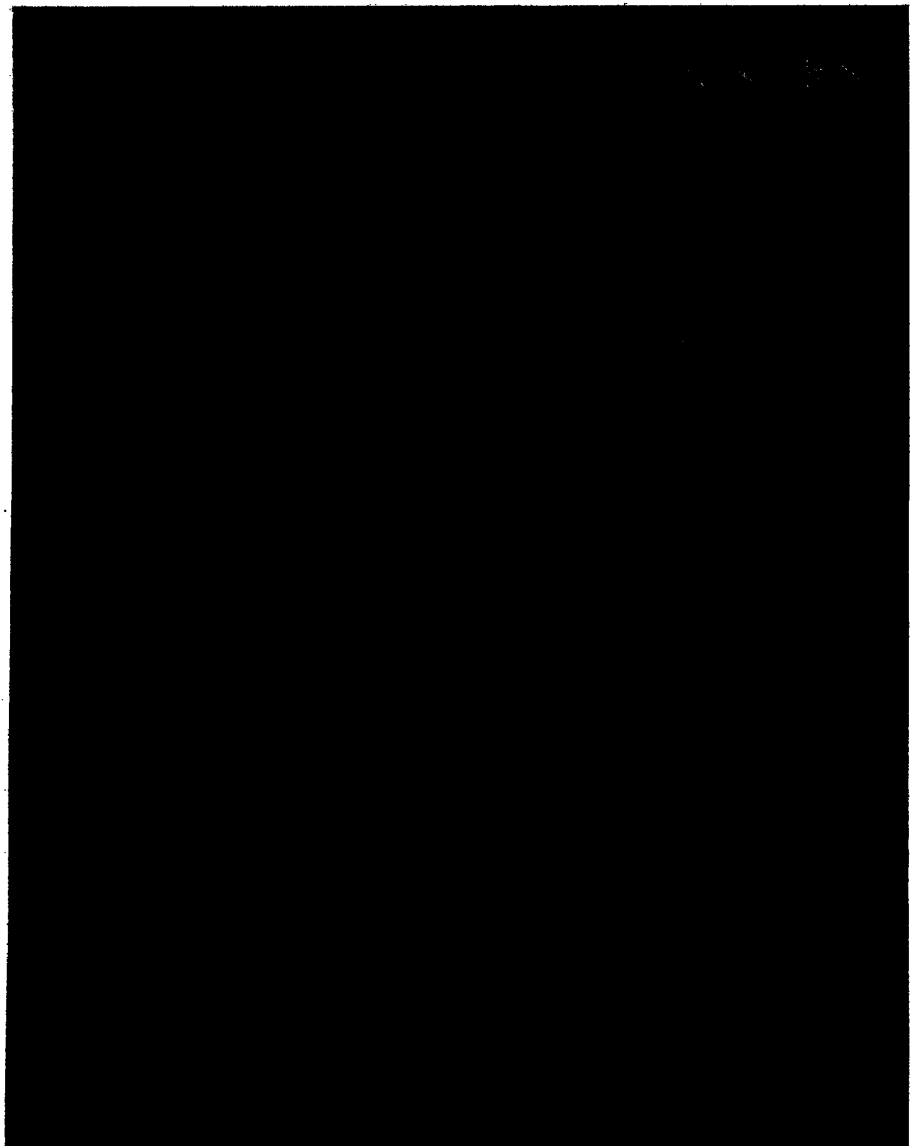
"NO WONDER you don't feel up to the mark. You come home after a hard day and go to bed on a supper that your digestion is just too tired to cope with. Your digestion should be resting, not working, while you sleep. From now on I'm going to give you a cup of Benger's. Benger's has a delicious flavour. It will soothe you, help you to digest your food and give you a good night's rest. You'll wake up feeling fresh and fit. Now do be sensible. You must look after your health . . ."

*Why Benger's Food is so good for you*

People don't realise that milk is tough work for the digestion last thing at night. Active enzymes in Benger's Food break up these curds, partially pre-digest the milk so that you absorb the full nutriment of the milk without digestive strain. Benger's, to-day, is as easy to make as a cup of cocoa. At chemists and grocers, from 1/9 a tin.

Household Milk and Thinned Evaporated Milk both make delicious Benger's. Try it!

BENGER'S LTD., HOLMES CHAPEL, CHESHIRE



**Jenners,** Edinburgh, are one of the leading fashion houses and more they are the shop window of Scotland itself; the House where tweeds and tartans and knitwear for which Scotland is famous are fashioned to perfection. Representative is the suit in Scotch tweed in block check design and the thickly knitted heavy wool box coat illustrated.

# COUNTRY LIFE

Vol. C No. 2583 JULY 19, 1946

Harlip

LADY CAROLINE MONTAGU-DOUGLAS-SCOTT

Lady Caroline is the younger daughter of the Duke and Duchess of Buccleuch and Queensberry Her sister, Lady Elizabeth, married the Duke of Northumberland last month

# COUNTRY LIFE

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## GREEN BELT AND NEW TOWNS

WHILE the great social experiment embodied in the New Towns Bill was being considered and endorsed by Parliament, the London County Council decided to submit to the London Joint Advisory Committee for Regional Planning their own housing and public health committee's views on the Abercrombie plan for Greater London. The two projects, be it noted—the Green Belt proposals of Sir Patrick Abercrombie's Plan and the New Towns of the Bill—are interdependent. There are more reasons, it is true, for the establishment of new towns at a distance from London than the desire to preserve a wide intervening area of open space and farm land. But one of the chief reasons is just that: to stop the continuous suburbanisation of the countryside. All planning authorities pay lip-service to the principle involved, though the L.C.C.'s attitude has been more practically shown, since the main proposals of the Abercrombie Plan were accepted, by their decision to erect a semi-dormitory town at Chessington. Their housing committee now attempts to justify this callous disregard of paramount principles by saying (in effect) that whatever may be the state of things ten years hence, the new towns will do nothing to help with London's immediate housing problems, and that any obligation to reserve a metropolitan green belt area will gravely hamper them as a housing authority unless "the principle of flexibility" is applied.

There are many kinds of flexibility, no doubt; but the kind which, having accepted a doctrine now generally held, proceeds to fly in the face of it at the first opportunity, is hardly worthy of so dignified a name. What does the plea mean? That the immediate demands of London for housing can be met only by restarting the creation of new dormitory suburbs? Clearly in that case the pre-war policy of taking the easiest course is reasserting itself, and while the big strategic moves are being got under way, their objectives are being undermined by a local infiltration which, the L.C.C. and other authorities will claim, it is impossible to resist. The danger of the position must be obvious. Reduction of population density in Central London must be correlated with the provision of permanent towns to receive the excess population. At present the density is less than that recommended in the County of London Plan, but it is clear that before long the return from evacuation and other factors will, unless they are checked, bring it above the accepted figures. If while we are waiting for the new towns any excess of population is to be housed in dormitory estates in the Green Belt, the pass will have been sold and the damage be irreparable. Is this really necessary? The casualty list of dwellings in the County of London shows a loss of 8·5 per cent., but the total population at present is 29·6 per cent. less than it was in 1939. There is still a great deal of room even with the reduced density figures of the future. Altogether, what is wanted is not so much flexibility of principle as inflexible determination to achieve the ultimate aim.

### WAR DAMAGE PAYMENTS

SIR MALCOLM TRUSTRAM EVE'S recent complaint about delays in submitting claims for value payments under the War Damage Act, shows that there is a good deal of misunderstanding of the situation. No doubt the Government's slowness in paying the claims is partly to blame, but this is not the Commission's responsibility. All it is concerned about is to have all its figures as to values agreed when the Chancellor says "Go," and any delay on the part of individuals is obviously to be deplored in the general interest. There appears to be a good deal—some of it due to the difficulty of obtaining reliable estimates and some to a misguided idea that merely by delaying decisions individuals will get more in the end. That is a mistake. The Commission's work cannot be allowed to go on for ever, and if individuals refuse either to agree or disagree with the provisional estimates made by the Commission, that body plainly must proceed to issue its final determination, and those who desire to challenge the figures will be left with the trouble and expense of a formal appeal. Those with perfectly serious claims which they have already agreed or negotiated when asked to do so, cannot be very grateful to others who are wasting the Commission's time either by making unjustifiable claims or by refusing to answer the Commission's communications.

### A SKYLARK HEARD BEFORE DAWN

*IN dew-bowed grasses the lark's awake.*
*He stretches his clammy wing to shake*
*The feathers dry: and the grasses round*
*Spill their drops on the trackless ground.*
*Shir, and quiver, and spring upright*
*To wait the morning, the coming light.*

*Up through the valley mist he flies;*
*He will not wait for the sun to rise,*
*But up, out of sight, he leaps, and plays*
*In the loitering sun's up-tilted rays,*
*Where with the morning he freights his wings,*
*And while earth drowses he sings, he sings.*

JOHN BUXTON.

### TOOLS FOR THE JOB

WHILE some farmers in this country have been seriously handicapped this summer by break-downs with their farm machinery, much of which is considerably over-age, it seems strange that a large part of the farm machinery manufactured in this country is being sent abroad to UNRRA's orders. English farmers are particularly short at the moment of hay-mowers. Very few new machines could be bought during the war, and the waiting list is a long one in many counties. Yet in six months, 818 horse-mowers have been exported, and this amounts to no less than 72 per cent. of our total production. More than a quarter of our horse-ploughs, disc-harrows, corn-drills, and threshing machines have also been sent abroad, and there has been a considerable export of tractors and other farm machinery. Is this common-sense policy at a time when the British farmer is being called upon to make an all-out effort to produce more grain and milk to feed the people of this country? If the farmer is denied the tools for the job, he cannot respond to the full. Nothing is more exasperating than to be held up by machinery breakdown when the sun is shining and conditions are just right for haymaking or cutting corn.

### "MORE NICE THAN WISE"

MR. HERBERT MORRISON is said to have demanded the banning of the word "labourer" since it has a derogatory implication. Coming from a less distinguished source this would surely appear to be nonsense. It is at any rate "more nice than wise." Would Mr. Morrison like to alter the wording to "The employee is worthy of his hire"? Somehow it does not seem to sound so well as the original. There is no derogatory implication in Virgil's statement that *Labor omnia vincit*. The world appears to be suffering from an inferiority complex or a severe attack of inverted snobbishness in this matter of changing familiar words. To-day we must shut up the house in order to let the "staff," if we are lucky enough to possess any, go away for a holiday. To refer to her by the honourable name of "servant" would be to insult a respectable lady. The undertaker has become the "mortician" (though the Government has given the word a new life in its town-planning schemes), and a rat-catcher a "rodent operative." We may thank heaven that there is still a match between Gentlemen and Players, although there have lately been murmurings against even that time-honoured title. Let us hope that cricketers at least will retain their sanity.

### RATIONS OF STAMINA

THE result of the Open Golf Championship was disappointing from a patriotic point of view. Cotton and Rees were well placed with one round to go, and so was Ward, who was steady as a rock throughout. Admittedly our two chief hopes fell away rather sadly in the last round, and Cotton has said in print that this was due to a lack of stamina which in its turn was due to a long course of rationing. Whether or not this was so cannot be proved, but in any case it seems one of those things better left unsaid. The tendency to "blow up" under the long-drawn-out strain was not unknown in the time when we could eat as much as we liked, and on this occasion it was not confined to our own players. Bulla, the American, for instance, a brave and cheerful golfer, had an obvious break-down at the last two holes, and finished by missing two of the shortest possible putts. These things will happen at a crisis after three days of severely hard work; they need no elaborate accounting for, and are better not excused. By way of encouraging contrast our Scottish schoolboy high-jumper, Alan Paterson, has just cleared 6 ft. 6¾ in., higher than any Briton has ever jumped before. Rationing cannot have done him very much harm, and with several years in front of him before he reaches athletic maturity he represents the brightest Olympic hope in field events that we have had for a very long time.

### PIGS AND GOURMETS

THERE have been reports that in Essex large quantities of bananas are being fed to pigs, and that some pigs nearing the end of their fattening time are receiving little but bananas. It would be interesting to know how English banana-fed bacon compares with that famous delicacy, Virginian peach-fed ham. Five years ago there was a story that pigs at an English university's farm were being "finished" on dried apricots—damaged on voyage—but the results, as proved in the eating, escaped the daily Press. During the first complete year of the war, however, some Lincolnshire pigs, fed largely on old and surplus tulip bulbs, were reported to have made good bacon—which is more than can be said for all swill-fed pigs. The influence of some animals' diet on the flavour and other qualities of the food they produce is, of course, well recognised: turtles are said to derive much of their special nutritive value from the seaweeds (rich in iodine) which they eat, and the redwings and fieldfares fattened in the mews of ancient Rome for epicures were fed largely on a paste made of bruised figs and flour. But expensive experiments to improve the flavour of an animal do not always succeed. There was a sad tale, about a year before the outbreak of war, of a rabbit destined to grace the table at a meeting of gourmets for the tasting of specially distinguished but unnamed dishes. The greatly favoured rabbit received brandy for a week or more before its appointed end. On the day of days it was cooked and served with a seasoning of civet and tarragon. By some of the experts present it was judged to be probably brill, and by others to be certainly skate.

# A COUNTRYMAN'S NOTES

By

**Major C. S. JARVIS**

I WAS most interested to read in COUNTRY LIFE on June 28 the account of the rhinodon, or whale shark, in the Gulf of Akaba, who in the year 1943 bumped into a boat containing Fishery officials of the Palestine Government, an act which would suggest that the growing aversion to officials has spread even to the fish world. I have known this shark for twenty years or more, and, as I am not a Fishery official and an expert in piscatorial matters, I was unable to identify it as a rhinodon—a plankton-eater as opposed to a man-eater—which is a most important point to bear in mind when encountering members of the shark family. The shark seen by the Fishery officials was estimated to be a matter of twenty-five to thirty feet long and as, I imagine, a fish of this size lives to a very considerable age, the giant shark, which I met some five or six times and which frightened ten years' growth out of me on more than one occasion, was in all probability the same fish.

According to the Arab fishermen of Akaba village, this shark has been coming up to the head waters of the Gulf from the Red Sea on what one might call annual cruises of inspection for thirty years or more and, as the Arab is a fine natural romancer and as all fishermen are said to be liars, some of the stories I have heard about its various visits are hair-raising. The first time I met this shark I was fishing with an old Arab friend in his very cranky dug-out canoe, and when a dirty beige-coloured dorsal fin about four feet high broke the surface of the water within a few yards of the boat, I experienced that feeling of land-hunger about which one hears so much. When the Arab boatman told me that he had acquired the dug-out canoe from the widow of its previous owner, after this same shark had upset the fragile craft and eaten the occupant, I seemed to lose all desire for a life on the ocean wave and suggested we should go ashore for lunch.

* * *

I AM disappointed in one way to hear that this regular and terrifying visitor to the Gulf of Akaba is a harmless plankton-feeder, as this identification by an expert discredits utterly some of the best fishing stories I have ever heard, and I have tried hard to believe them, as the raconteur was one of my old angling friends. Two of these stories which I remember were told to me as we drifted down the Gulf in a light evening breeze on an occasion when the barracouta were not taking, and readers will be grieved to hear that these masterpieces of fishing lore, like so many others of that ilk, must now be relegated to the limbo of fiction.

The first concerns two Arabs who were fishing in the Gulf one evening when the big shark suddenly appeared on the surface, dashed at the boat, upset it, and swallowed the two men. One of these was well masticated during the process, and he disappears from the story. The other was swallowed whole, and when he came to his senses after the shock of being swallowed he found himself in the shark's stomach. Luckily he had his Syrian dagger in his belt, and with this he cut his way through the shark's body and swam ashore. So far the story sounds most improbable, though something of the same nature happened to Jonah. It is the sort of story an Arab might tell in an expansive moment, but the finishing touches which gave it some semblance of truth have always caused me to be not quite certain about the mendacity of my informant, as it is not quite the sort of thing that an Arab would invent. The man, he explained, was some time in the shark's stomach before he cut his way out, and the digestive juices inside ate away nearly all his skin—*sei nar* (like fire)—so that his relations had to smother him with olive oil, and keep him in his tent away from the sun until he grew a new skin.

At the same time, there may be really dangerous tiger sharks in the Gulf of Akaba, for I have frequently caught small specimens of this variety seven or eight feet in length, and some, I imagine, must grow to man-eating estate. It may have been one of these which figured in the other story, which is about a small Arab vessel that was anchored off Akaba when one of the crew, while unloading cargo, fell overboard. He was immediately seized by a big shark which bit him clean in halves, swallowing the lower portion of the body. The captain of the ship was most annoyed about this, as the dead man was the handiest member of his crew; so, baiting a large hook with the other half, he threw it overboard, and almost immediately caught the shark, which was hauled aboard and killed.

* * *

A CORRESPONDENT, who has recently moved from Wiltshire to Cornwall, has written to confirm an opinion of mine, which I mentioned rather tentatively in some recent Notes, that the song of the thrush varies with localities. The writer states that he has noticed this difference in the case of the blackbird as well as the thrush, and that the songs of these birds in Cornwall vary both in notes and accent from those he used to hear in Wiltshire.

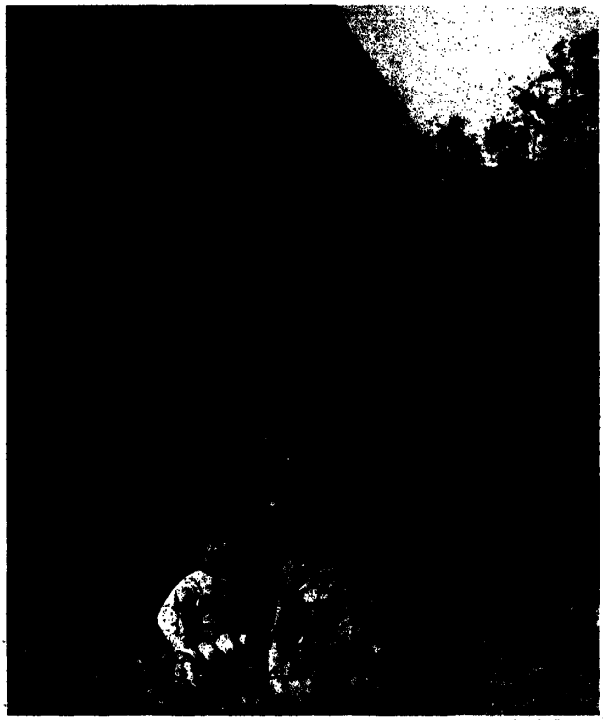
He goes on to say that it is not only the songs of birds which differ but their habits as well, for in Wiltshire the many whitethroats made a clean sweep of his garden peas every year and, as they could get through the mesh of any net and no form of scarecrow or alarm had the slightest effect on them, he had to accept the situation and give up pea-growing. Now that he lives in Cornwall, where these small birds are even more plentiful than in Wiltshire, he has no trouble from whitethroats, or any of the other recognised pea pests—and they are many. He seems to think that Cornwall is a good spot in which to live if one is interested in vegetables and soft fruits, for his Cornish gardener has assured him—and he has some difficulty in believing this—that there is not the slightest necessity in the Duchy to net either strawberries or raspberries, as the blackbirds of the "land of the Tre-, Pol- and Pen-" do not attack them. He has promised to write after the strawberry and raspberry seasons and report his personal experiences.

* * *

I ALSO find it extremely difficult to believe this. It is my unhappy experience that the blackbird is a persistent and insatiable fruit thief whatever the locality in which he is found. In my garden on the north coast of Sinai, which was visited annually by swarms of European migrant birds, I told my very conservative bird-hating Turkish gardener that the birds from my country were not to be killed, for they were all well-behaved, and not one was a vegetable and fruit destroying pest like the indigenous Egyptian sparrow. He affected to believe this against his convictions, but later, when he found that the increase of migrant blackbirds coincided with many damaged tomatoes in his rows, he became sceptical.

"You tell me," he said, "that all the birds from your country are honest like the English themselves, but I don't agree about that black fellow with the yellow beak. In my opinion he is a *harami iswid* (black thief)."

In the light of ten years' experience with soft fruits and blackbirds in this country, I have no



*H. A. Summers*

PLAYMATES

adverse comment to make on this Oriental summing up of the bird's character. The only point on which I am doubtful is the rash statement I made in the past that the English are an honest race, but then, not being a prophet, I had not foreseen the days when parcels in transit, spare tyres on cars, coats in cloakrooms, and poultry in pens are regarded almost as legitimate perquisites.

* * *

ANOTHER correspondent writing on the topic of the songs and calls of birds, states that in the vicinity of his garden there is a cuckoo who either has an impediment in his speech or suffers from an ornithological form of "spoonerism," for he puts the cart before the horse and calls "Oo-cuck, oo-cuck" all day long. His call is not that seasonable change of note mentioned in the old country jingle about the cuckoo:

> "April, come he will;
> May, sings all day;
> June, change his tune;
> July, prepares to fly;
> August, go he must"

When the cuckoo in June changes his tune, he develops a kind of stammer in the first syllable and says "Cuck—cuck—cuck-oo," but this is an original rendering of the hackneyed remark, and my correspondent states that he and his wife are heartily sick of it.

As the cuckoo's note is too low-pitched for my defective ears, I cannot compete with this tale, for it is at least ten years since I heard the bird call, but the story has put me on my mettle. All I can say to cap the tale is that there is in my garden a refugee thrush who arrived just in time for the nesting season, and the bird, I imagine, hails from some ghetto in Europe, for a high-pitched note which he repeats incessantly, and very clearly, is "Tel-Aviv, Tel-Aviv." I can assure the bird that if he saw Tel-Aviv with its confused jumble of every known type of European and other architecture, he would realise that the town is nothing to make a song about.

# FROM SHREWSBURY TO ST. DAVID'S

By R. T. LANG

FOR the journey to St. David's, the shrine of Wales, in Pembrokeshire, one leaves Shrewsbury, appropriately, by the Welsh Bridge and continues onward till the wooded slopes of Moel-y-Golfa herald the approach to Welshpool (COUNTRY LIFE, May 28, 1943). Beyond lies the great park of Powis Castle, the seat of the Earl of Powis, laid out by "Capability" Brown and rich in mighty oaks. It is a pretty, woodland run past Glan Severn on to Newtown, a pleasant place, famous for its flannel mills, by the green meadows of the River Severn. There is a Robert Owen museum in the town, and the founder of English Socialism lies in the churchyard.

A sunny five miles follows along the Caersws road; then comes a turn south on the Llanidloes road to the delightful grounds of Plas Dinam, the seat of Lord Davies, outside which stands the monument to that great Welshman, David Davies. Llandinam church has a curious wooden belfry. Six miles more brings Llanidloes, a busy, clean little market town, which was the original home of the Welsh weaving trade. There is a beautiful church, with a handsome carved-oak roof, the hammer-beams being finished off with winged figures, two of women and the others of ecclesiastics. This roof is said to have come from Cwm Hir abbey. John Wesley preached from the large stone in the main street at the west corner of the old Market Hall, which is now scheduled as an ancient monument. Opposite it, the National Provincial Bank has shown how commerce and art can be allied, for although its building at the corner is less than 50 years old, it might easily pass for a relic of mediæval days.

The main road is gained near Llangurig, and leads over the side of Plinlimmon (COUNTRY LIFE, Febuary 6, 1942) to Pont-erwyd, where the great highway is left to turn south for Devil's Bridge, three miles distant, and a glorious view of the glen. Here the car or cycle should be left and the shilling toll paid which allows one to go down through the turnstile into the ravine for the view of the waterfall and the triple bridge. The lowest bridge was built in 1188, the second in 1753, and the third in 1900. There is a legend that, when the first bridge was built, the Devil took a hand in it, to help an old woman to recover her cow which had strayed to the other side. As a reward he asked for the soul of the first living thing that crossed the bridge. The old lady, however, taking no risks, sent her dog across first; the Devil retired in disgust! The descent to the ravine on the opposite side permits a marvellous view of the Rheidol Fall.

Nine miles to the south is Pontrhydfendigaid, where it is worth while to turn aside for a little more than a mile to Strata Florida. The beautiful ruins of the Cistercian abbey stand by the Teifi, which is here but a wimpling stream, in the heart of a lovely scene. The building was completed about 1235, but it suffered much in the Border wars and fell into ruin till the Ministry of Works took it in hand in 1931. The Norman west doorway is the gem of the building; in the churchyard lies David ap Gwilym, known as the Welsh Ovid. He was a famous lover, and there is a great story that, on one occasion, he made assignations with 24 of his lady-loves at the same spot; then, from an adjoining tree, he watched their wrangles and listened to their angry arguments.

The great bog of Gors Goch and the lake, in which the original town of Tregaron is said to be buried, lie on the right of the way into Tregaron, an old-fashioned little town whose appearance reminds one singularly of Galway and its bog towns. It was the birthplace of Twm Shon Catti, the Welsh Robin Hood, who reformed, married a beautiful heiress, and became high sheriff of Cardiganshire.

Two miles farther the old Roman road of Sarn Helen is joined, and after Llangybi comes a charming run past the woods of Derry Ormond to Lampeter. The two streets are sprinkled with students training for the Welsh Church at St. David's College which, standing in picturesque grounds, was founded in 1822. The Teifi here is a famous salmon river; so long ago as the twelfth century Giraldus Cambrensis wrote of it as not only celebrated for its salmon but as "the only river in Wales or England that has beavers." Beyond lie the grounds of the ruined Peterwell House, whose end is related in a local legend. The vicar of Llandovery had fallen in love with the daughter of the house, who reciprocated. When this was discovered her brothers tied the young lover head downwards to his horse and drove him to Llandovery; before his death he cursed the house and all in it.

The rebuilt church of Llanwnen has retained its old tower and a 15th-century wall painting of the Crucifixion. The church of Llanwenog, reached after entering the valley of the Cledlyn, proves by its modern carvings that we have not lost the touch of beauty. A hard climb precedes a steep run down into the Cletwr valley; then comes a very hilly road, with some danger spots, to Llandyfriog, a memory of St. Tybriog, 6th-century saint. Beyond, the road follows the pleasant course of the Teifi river to Adpar, whence came the first book to be printed in Wales. Across the river is peaceful, little New-

THE 700-YEAR-OLD BRIDGE OF CENARTH, IN THE TEIFI VALLEY, TO WHICH A SALMON-LEAP AND THE SIGHT OF FISHERMEN IN CORACLES ADD INTEREST FOR THE WAYFARER

castle Emlyn, which received its original name, Dinas Emlyn, from Emilianus, a Roman settler. The castle reference is to that which Rhys ap Thomas built in the reign of Henry VII. The wrack of war left its mark on the little town, but it now slumbers happily by the river, waking up to nothing more serious than the sound of a motor-horn.

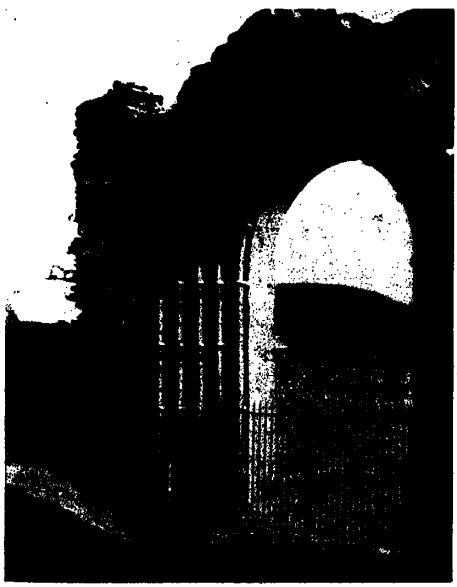
Three miles along the Cardigan road comes one of the historic spots of Wales. By the picturesque 700-year-old bridge of Cenarth the fishermen still use the ancient coracles, and the salmon leap at the bridge makes a charming picture. The mound opposite the old church was probably the site of the castle which is believed to have been the early home of the Princess Nest. At any rate, through these woods she rambled as a care-free girl, ignorant that her beauty was to make her known as the Helen of Wales and to lead to widespread war.

The lovely daughter of Rhys ap Tudor, she became, on his death, the ward of Henry I. When she had borne him two children he married her to Gerald de Windsor, who brought her to live at the castle here. To Gerald she had three or four children, one of whom became the father of Giraldus Cambrensis. The fame of her beauty spread over the land. One night the infatuated Owen ap Cadgwan gained admission to the castle, chased Gerald down a drain, and took Nest to his castle near Llangollen. Then began a series of wars, till Owen was killed and Nest returned to her husband. Soon afterwards Gerald died. Nest then married Grufydd ap Rhys, to whom she had more children and, getting on in years, seems to have settled down to a comparatively respectable life.

There is another lovely ivy-covered bridge just before the turning into Llechryd, where Rhys ap Tudor, defeating the sons of Breddyn in 1087, recovered his sovereignty; then comes Cardigan, now mainly an agricultural centre. There is a fragment of the castle of Rhys ap Grufydd, all that the Parliamentary army left in the Civil War; also there are a grammar school of 1653, and a church which has still its 15th-century chancel and some old glass. Much of the glory of Cardigan departed when the assizes were moved to Lampeter, but the corporation still proudly displays its two maces of 1647. Cardigan, however, has the honour of having led the Rebecca riots, which began the end of the iniquitous toll-house system. There were before 1843 no fewer than 13 toll-gates within three miles of Cardigan; although the methods of the rioters were violent, they drew public attention to the system, and so good came out of evil when toll-roads were abolished.

The blue waters of Cardigan Bay, so famous for its sunsets, now lie over to the right as the road sweeps along within reach of the bay to Crosswaу. From here there is a lovely little by-road to Temple Bar. It is a way bordered with foxgloves, buttercups and briar for five miles along to Nevern, where trees, stream and grey old church blend into a charming scene. The church with its 13th-century tower is approached along an avenue of yews. Outside the building stands

A PEACEFUL RIVERSIDE SCENE ON THE TEIFI NEAR NEWCASTLE EMLYN, THE WEIR, OR FISH STEPS



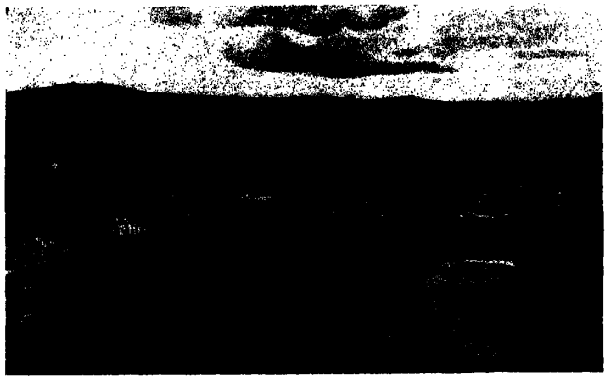
A NOBLE ARCHWAY, PART OF THE RUINS OF THE CISTERCIAN ABBEY AT STRATA FLORIDA

NEVERN CHURCH, WITH ITS 13TH-CENTURY TOWER AND, IN THE FOREGROUND, ST. BRYNACH'S STONE

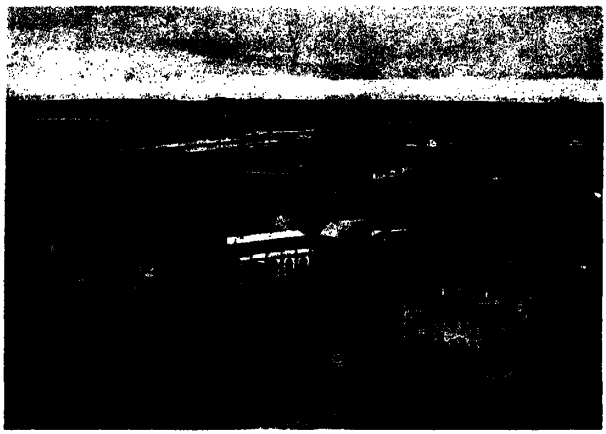
St Brynach's Stone, a cross 10 feet high covered with carving of the tenth or the eleventh century and considered to be the finest of its kind in the country. There are cromlechs around and many other relics of forgotten days.

By the main road it is an easy three miles to Eglwyswrw. One day I stopped here for petrol and asked the man how he pronounced the name. I cannot repeat it, but it was a softly musical sound, like that of water running over stones, and as soothing. Spoken Welsh is far more musical than the written word suggests. It is said that chess was introduced at Eglwyswrw by the Normans—its first appearance in these islands. Others claim that it reached these shores at some earlier date but, at any rate, for hundreds of years the old Sergeants Ian was famous for its chess tournaments.

Through a lovely, wooded glen and between high flower-clad hedgerows, the road goes on to Newport with, rising to the left, Carn Ingle, the mountain on which St. Brynach was said to converse regularly with the angels. At Newport the old ceremony of the lady mayor appointing the mayor is still maintained, although modern democratic principles are satisfied by the choice being made by the corporation. The ruins of the



A VIEW OF THE OLD HARBOUR AND LOWER TOWN OF HISTORIC FISHGUARD



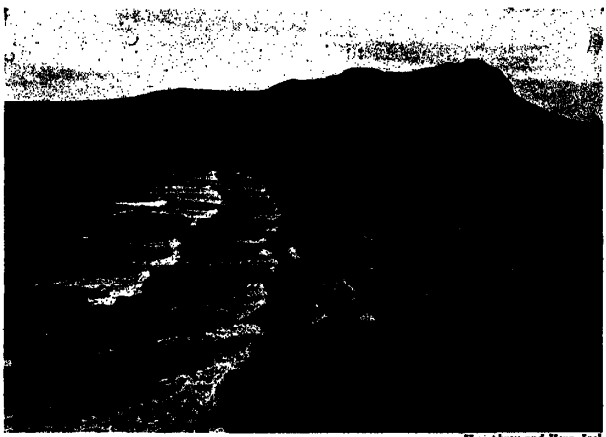
ST. DAVID'S, CRADLE OF WELSH CHRISTIANITY. THE CATHEDRAL RANGES FROM 1180 TO THE SIXTEENTH CENTURY

old castle are incorporated in the modern residence, and the church has still its ancient tower. A mile outside the town a group of stones, representing the remains of five cists, has been arranged in the form of a circle.

After Dinas and its pretty modern villas nestling among the orchards have been left behind comes the ferocious drop and rise into Fishguard. Long before history began our ancient British forefathers were established here. Fifteen miles of easy running, over pleasant moors and farm land, lead to St. David's, the cradle of Welsh Christianity, a village and a city in one. Some place the Roman Menevia here, but that was probably nearer to the sea and now under it. The Roman Catholic church has now adopted the name for its province. The old cross in the village is a relic of several similar crosses which stood here; it is considered to be the best of its kind in England and Wales. The custom was to take the dead round it on their way to burial in the cathedral precincts. Here I had an illustration of how villagers regard time. One day I remarked to an old man, who was sitting on the steps of the cross, that it must be very old. "Aye, it's very, very old," he replied. "I'm 91, and it's been here as long as I can remember!"

The cathedral, hidden in the valley so that only the top of the tower can be seen, was founded by St. David, but the present building ranges in date from 1180 to the sixteenth century. Its interesting and varied contents have been carefully labelled for the convenience of the visitor. I wish that other places would copy this plan. St. Mary's College and the bishop's palace (or what is left of them) are close at hand; by the bay are the ruins of Nonita chapel, dedicated to St. Nonita, which is, according to tradition, the birthplace of St. David in 462. The son of a Welsh prince and princess and uncle of King Arthur, his birth is said to have been foretold 30 years before the event "by truth-telling oracles of angels, first to his father, then to St. Patrick." What are believed to be his bones were discovered here in 1920. He became the patron saint of Wales and the head of the Welsh church; innumerable miracles were associated with his name.

So ends a run of 160 miles, one particularly delightful for those who are weary of the business and toil of the Midlands. In this land one escapes from the twentieth century with all its worries, and it is possible to recapture something of the days when time was of little importance, and no one was ever in a hurry.



*Humphrey and Vera Joel*

WHITESANDS BAY, JUST SOUTH OF ST. DAVID'S HEAD, WITH CARN LLIDI TOWERING NEARLY 600 FT. ON THE SKYLINE

# BAMBOO FURNITURE

*By* MARGARET JOURDAIN

THE Chinese taste, which was revived in England about the middle of the eighteenth century, and established as a fashion, affected the form and decoration of furniture at intervals for three quarters of a century. Its last revival, under the Prince Regent, owes a great deal to that Prince's personal taste: he explained his liking for the Chinese by saying that "the French at this time were so unpopular he was afraid of his furniture being accused of Jacobinism."

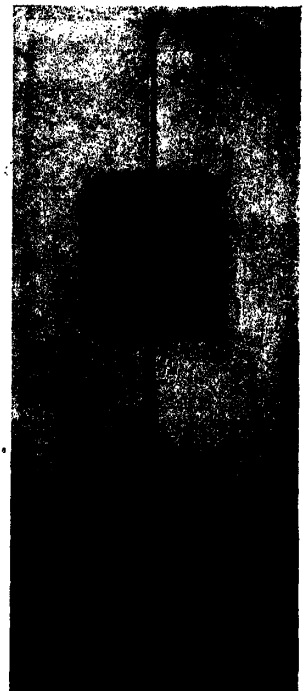
"Bamboo furniture" was considered suitable for rooms "slighty decorated," or of Oriental character, and chairs in this taste were advertised in 1797 by an American maker, William Challen, "Fancy chair maker from London," who stated that he "makes all sorts of dyed, japanned and bamboo chairs, settees, etc., every article in the fancy chair line executed in the newest and most approved London patterns." Bambo or bamboo was defined in the *Cabinet Dictionary* (1803) as "a kind of Indian reed, which in the East is used for chairs. They are in some degree imitated in England by turning beech into the same form, and making chairs of this fashion, painting them to match the colour of the reeds and cane." Sheraton's description suggests that this bamboo motif was used only for chairs, and references in the late eighteenth century are all to "very neat bamboo chairs," or "mock bamboo chairs." In 1788, "the Queen's house in St. James's Park" was supplied with six "very neat Bamboo elbow chairs with ovall seats for stuffing, compas backs and elbows very neatly japanned, yellow ground and spotted rings, blue and black," and in 1791 "eight very neat Bambo chairs" were supplied "neatly japanned in party colours to match the cotton cream colour ground, and ornamented with flowers."

Though the natural colour of the bamboo was most frequently imitated, any colour scheme could be employed. In the bedroom furniture made about 1775 for David Garrick's villa at Hampton, and now in the Victoria and Albert Museum, the frames of the chairs are carved to imitate bamboo and painted a creamy white, with the knots painted in green.

The vogue for bamboo furniture continued for the first quarter of the nineteenth century in both England and the United States. Peter Nicholson, writing in 1826, says that "bamboo is employed in chairs and tables," and "of this material bedroom chairs are frequently made." In 1811 sets of bamboo chairs, ornamented with gilt, are advertised in the *Boston Patriot*, and in 1825 "Fancy bamboo and Windsor chairs" are listed in the *Columbian Sentinel*. Bamboo rods, real or mock, were also used in the decoration of rooms; Papworth in his *Rural Residences* (1818) describes a room in a cottage "fancifully ornamented with paper in imitation of bamboo and basket work in the colour of cane," each side being divided into compartments by pilasters "which support a sort of roofing and transverse bamboo rods, to which seem to be suspended the most exquisite works of the Chinese pencil."

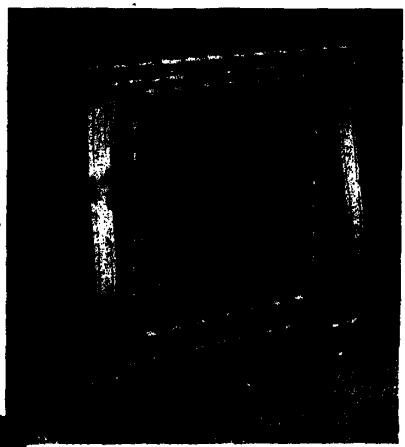
Bamboo furniture was considered appropriate to interiors in the Chinese taste, and was often decorated with Chinese motifs. In a pair of bookcases sold from Middleton Park in 1935, which may have been made for the Prince Regent's friend, Lady Jersey, the cases are mounted with panels of black and gold lacquer and decorated on the frieze and canted corners with "mock" Chinese characters in gold on a brown ground, which proved to be meaningless. In the pole screen (Fig. 1) the panel is japanned in the Chinese taste. In the royal collection at Buckingham Palace is a series of cabinets and chairs originally made by the royal cabinet-makers, Elward, Marsh and Tatham, for the Pavilion at Brighton. Bamboo canes are applied to the friezes of the cabinets, and "mock bamboo" to the rest of the framework, but the brackets at the base are of wood, carved with Chinese frets. Some of the cabinets are mounted with panels of black and gold lacquer, and the bamboo caning is realistically mottled or spotted. A shelved cabinet made for the Pavilion is also mounted with panels japanned in the Chinese taste in gold on a black ground, while the framework is in imitation bamboo, japanned black with gilt rings or knots.

In the table (Fig. 2) from Ston Easton, Somerset, the borders to the drawer and frieze, and the legs are treated as bamboo rods, but the spaces between the knots are painted with flowers. The top is japanned, the centre forming a board for chess or draughts. The frieze is decorated with perforated detail in the Chinese taste, and on a chair in which the framework is in imitation bamboo the top rail is pierced in a series of quatrefoils which is perhaps an intrusion of the Gothic taste.



1.—POLE SCREEN FROM CORSHAM

2.—JAPANNED TABLE WITH A CHESS-BOARD TOP FROM STON EASTON, SOMERSET



3.—EARLY 19th-CENTURY CUPBOARD FROM FARLEY HILL PLACE, BERKSHIRE

# LIVING ON THE CANAL

***Written and Illustrated by* KYRLE W. WILLANS**

"IF you do not like the street in which you live, then move your house into one that you prefer." This is one of the great advantages of living on the canal, and as there are some thousands of miles of streets the choice is considerable. To those considering canal-cruising, the advice I would offer is: invest in a narrow boat, to give it its usual name, and convert it into a yacht. [This craft is of the same type as the "long boat" referred to in the article *Floating Homes: A Housing Problem*, by C. Fox Smith, which appeared in COUNTRY LIFE of March 15—Ed.]

A narrow boat is built of either wood or steel, and is 72 ft. long by about 7 ft. beam. This, curiously enough, is the same length-to-beam ratio as a destroyer. Do not, however, picture yourself tearing along the canals at a rate of knots. Three miles an hour is the speed that you will generally achieve.

From time to time the canals are discovered by enthusiasts who visualise themselves as explorers of an unknown world. Not only have a certain number of people lived for years in canal yachts, but canal-yachting in converted narrow boats, or in boats built on those lines by yacht-builders, dates back at any rate to the 1870s or before. William Black, the Victorian novelist, wrote his book, *Strange Adventures of a Houseboat*, after trips in a horse-drawn canal-yacht about that time.

In a *Lloyd's Yacht Register* dated 1890 there are two entries: first, S.Y. *Helix*, 68 ft. long by 6 ft. 9 in. beam; builders, Forrest of London; engines, Willans, Thames Ditton. Second, S.Y. *Una* (ex *Ella*); builders, Forrest of London; engines, Willans by Hunter & English, of Bow; 72 ft. long by 7 ft. 1 in. beam. These entries describe two canal yachts both of which were in use in the 1870s. It was in the *Una* (late *Ella*) that the writer and his sister spent the first five years of their lives until a summer spent on the old Basingstoke canal at Winchfield led to a shore establishment being found for the family at Frimley, *Una* becoming the spare room.

It was in 1929 that the author reverted to type and bought a "fly boat" from a flour-miller near Oswestry, on the Shropshire Union canals, and converted her into a yacht. *Cressy*, to give her her name, was about the dimensions of *Helix*, and thus was able to travel on canals which the additional four inches of beam of the old *Una* ruled out. *Cressy* followed the apparent habit of canal yachts, which is to be the first home of married couples. *Una* was the first home of the writer's parents. When a transfer to a "barren land where no canals were" compelled a sale, *Cressy* was bought by a couple who wanted to live near Leicester. They lived in her, winter and summer, for four years. The death of the wife brought the boat into the market and her original owner bought her again. When the need came for a move to Somerset, where there are no canals, *Cressy* was sold to a couple who still live in her.

Now, contrary to popular belief, based presumably on inspection of the cabins of horse-drawn narrow boats, a converted narrow boat ballasted down to draw 16 in. forward and, say, 27 in. aft (to give good water for the propeller), can be cabined to give a headroom right through of 6 ft. 3 in. and still pass through any canal tunnel or under any bridge. There might be the need to ballast down a bit to get through Harecastle tunnel on the Trent and Mersey canal. Six foot three inches of headroom is comfortable even for the six footer.

THE CONVERTED NARROW BOAT *CRESSY* CRUISING ALONG A STRETCH OF INLAND WATERWAY

If you consider the conversion of a canal boat, take advice before buying an old wooden boat and, in addition to looking for decayed timber, discuss the question of insect life. Find out whether modern insecticides can be brought to bear on creatures that seem able to live in cracks narrower than themselves. If the boat has been found and bought, have her docked and gone through from end to end. Remember that, whereas a cargo boat on the canal travels sometimes light and sometimes loaded, the yacht maintains one draught the whole time. Consequently, leaky seams and the owner's absence may result in still leakier seams coming below the water-line and the sinking of the boat. When a boat is raised after sinking in a canal, the interior is liable to look like a garden bed and one is left wondering where all the earth came from.

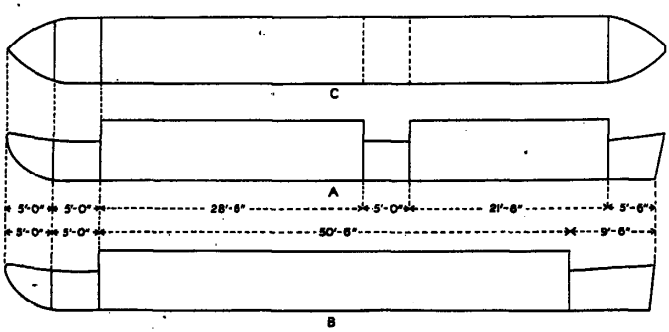
In cabining a narrow boat, keep in mind the old Navy saying: "Different ships, different long splices." When you come to sell, the buyer may want a different cabin arrangement, so make all bulkheads portable. It is a good selling point.

Another point to be kept in mind is that, in a boat of under 7 ft. beam, there is not enough room for a corridor through the boat, and so entry to the sleeping-cabins must be either from outside or through the adjacent cabin. If, therefore, mixed parties sleep on board as a regular rule, and particularly if they do so for weeks on end, it is best to arrange matters, as far as the males are concerned, so that the cabins are entered *from the deck*. This avoids having to clear up everything every day.

The question of open-air accommodation also requires attention. If the family includes small children who can walk, then the practice of the writer's parents is worth noting. *Una*'s upper deck had folding rails and stanchions covered with strong netting. The family was turned loose inside this, an awning acting as shield against rain or sun.

The accompanying sketches A and B are guides to cabin arrangements, sketch C being a plan common to both. Sketch A shows cabins arranged so that access can be made from four points. Sketch B shows a yacht in which access is from either bow or stern. In the *Cressy* there was additional means of entry amidships on the starboard side, the cabin block being constructed as in sketch B. When travelling, the best place for those not actually navigating is in the forward cockpit. Here, from folding chairs, the unwinding of the canal ahead can be watched in comfort. The other place to sit out, shown in sketch B, is the 9 ft. 6 ins. deck aft. The engine that propelled and, it is believed, still propels, *Cressy* is a

*CRESSY* NEGOTIATING ONE OF THE LOCKS ON THE GRAND UNION CANAL




PLAN OF A NARROW BOAT AND TWO SUGGESTIONS FOR THE LAY-OUT OF CABIN SPACE

(*Right*) "WHEN TRAVELLING, THE BEST PLACE . . . . IS IN THE FORWARD COCKPIT"

model T Ford, situated on the deck level and driving the propeller-shaft by twin chains. As the engine was first fitted in 1930 she has not done too badly.

Bearing in mind that the best canals for the yachtsman are the worst for weeds, and assuming that mechanical power, and not a horse, is to be the means of propulsion, a screw propeller should be avoided if possible. If not, then do as in the case of *Cressy* and fit a slow-speed "prop"—the slower the better—and drive with a chain. The engine should be on deck level. The ideal propeller, however, is one of the Hotchkiss type situated, strange as it may seem, *inside* the boat. Not only does it propel the craft, but it can also pump out the bilges and bath. It is completely weed-proof. The idea in sketch A, the ideal arrangement for a mixed party, is to instal the Hotchkiss propeller below the deck of the navigating bridge between the two sections of cabin.

Anyone dallying with the thought of canal-boat conversion should purchase squared paper in large sheets and clear the floor of the dining-room. With pins and white tape you can mark out on the floor the sizes of the proposed cabins in turn, making the extreme width not more than 6 ft. 6 ins. If the side of the room be taken as one side of the taped cabin, it will soon be possible to see exactly how large is the bath-room, what size of bath can be got in, and so on. Furniture can also be chosen to suit the boat while she is being converted—but here a word of caution. Do not put the bulkheads in place until the furniture is inside, for it may prove too big to go through the doors.

In conclusion, when you have built your yacht and are living on the canal, just enjoy it. Be friendly with the boat people, who are mainly Nature's genticfolk, and don't try to travel fast.

# PLAGUE OF BUTTERFLIES

By E. L. GRANT WATSON

ON a pathway which passing feet had worn across a meadow of alpine flowers, an azure blue sat with wings extended in the sunlight. Like a winged jewel alighting for a moment to show its quality, it had chosen for setting a space among the surrounding flowers. I and my companion, seeing this brilliance in our path, paused, unwilling to disturb its loveliness. What was this enigma? What the significance of this living speck of colour in the cosmic order? What zest for life was here? And why so ephemeral an expression of joy and lightness—a thing that might be crushed by a careless foot or passed unheeded, but, once beheld, could fasten within the mind a lasting recognition? We stood for a moment or two to admire, and my companion, an older man than myself, asked: "What does it mean? Why is it? What is it?" "A butterfly, an azure blue, freshly emerged." The answer was insignificant.

We did not disturb that blue jewel enigma, but stepped aside into the flowers, and tifen went on towards the lake for our bathe; but the memory of the blue butterfly is yet vivid as a thing of super-earthly loveliness, and in striking contrast with other less happy memories of butterflies.

* * *

In Suva, the capital town of Viti Levu, the chief island in Fiji, there happened a plague of butterflies when I was there. Each insect of this swarm might have been considered beautiful in its own individual person. Of a dark blue and black, with serrated margins and swallow-tails, its velvety wings stretched to three inches when expanded. Its movements were not ungraceful, yet, when viewed in the thick swarm in which these insects congregated, they were, from the human point of view, hideous and repulsive. The insects filled the lower stratum of air with their flutterings, and literally covered the ground. They perched on bushes, trees, houses, roads, on chairs and tables, on windows and doors; yes, and on clothes and human faces and hands, if not constantly brushed off. In no place could one be free of them, neither indoors nor out.

Stretched in a deck chair in the tropical heat, I have looked down at legs and arms covered all over, every square inch, with velvety blue and black wings, pulsing with their peculiar and insistent ecstasy. They were a horror, a dream of a distorted fancy, and seemed not to belong to the outer world of sane reality, but to some inner region of depravity, a feverish manifestation of disquiet. Not only did those multitudinous wings continually pulse so that all the surface of things was infected with their quality, but from time to time their tails were lifted to emit globules of claret-coloured excrement.

They were importunate and without fear, and when brushed away they would become crippled by the blow, their squelchy bodies and brittle wings making a combination of softness and hardness which was peculiarly repulsive. The dead lay everywhere, squashed in hundreds, emitting a pungent and distinctive odour. It was impossible to move without treading on butterflies. The wheels of carts left juggernaut tracks. Many were mutilated and held fast by their congealed juices. On both the dead and the wounded the living perched, and never ceased the rhythmical play of lifting and depressing their wings. In this gesture there was expressed no simple zest of life, no joy of being. In this action there was no sense of will. These palpitations were from a deeper source: the primal urge, the pre-instinctive and blind drive from which the human consciousness retreats in horror.

Out from the surrounding jungles where green plants were growing at tropical speed into ever thicker festoons and entanglements, the butterflies had come, and now they covered with their brilliant blues and blacks the comparatively small area that human-kind had seemed temporarily to win from the forests. They carried the significance of the urge which exceeded even the ruthlessness of men. They were an obscene gesture of the fecund mother, from which our eyes could not be averted, and, like the sexual images which writhingly interpenetrate on an Indian temple, they overwhelmed with an extravagant vitality, a sensitivity which would fain be averted from the sight. From the presence of so indecent an exhibition human sensibilities shrank with prudish gesture. Give us Nature, our souls muttered within us, since we are part of Nature, but in degree of moderation. Give us a partial recognition, a beauty which is pleasure; let not the veils be too suddenly withdrawn; spare us from horror; too abundant a vitality is one with ugliness and pain.

On the hundreds and thousands of the dead and dying butterflies, yet larger, though less conspicuous, hosts of insects are preying. Birds, I noticed, did not eat these butterflies. Doubtless they were unpleasant to taste, but smaller creatures were not so fastidious. Tiny red ants in vast numbers devoured the yet-living, just dying tissues. These inhabited the bodies they devoured, making labyrinths within them, approaching and retreating in long fine lines, making a network among the corpses. Larger ants, cockroaches, beetles of many kinds, tore with hungry mandibles at the soft flesh; and, besides these, wasps, and a host of small, winged scavengers, came for their share. The feast was uninterrupted; even during the night hours it continued. As soon as the daylight returned each morning, the newly emerged or newly arrived butterflies unfolded their wings and commenced their rhythmical pulsations.

* * *

For four days the butterflies continued to come out of the adjacent jungles into the open spaces of the town. Their numbers remained undiminished until at noon on the fourth day their cloud lifted, the sky was darkened, and, on a rising gust of wind, it was swept over the bay towards the western hills, leaving but a few of their number fluttering in a disconsolate manner over the squashed remnants of the dead and dying. Very soon the scavengers had finished their work, and, by the end of the next day, the armies of ants were withdrawing, leaving all that was left of the feast as a mere dust to be blown away by the wind.

These memories of butterflies—the azure blue of the alpine valley and the papilios of Fiji—stand far apart and contrasting. Each insect was, in itself, viewed in isolation, extrinsically beautiful. They were of the same pattern, of the same essential nature. In the human perception they were as far apart as ugliness and loveliness. The azure blue was a symbol of irreflective joy, the very zest of life. The massed legions of the papilios provoked a psychic nausea. There seemed no zest, scarcely a will to existence, merely an unseeing and compulsive urge.

## NOT ONLY MOSES

*NOT only Moses—*
*Who, the Scriptures tell,*
*Knew God well,*
*Or knew His voice—*
*Beheld the burning bush.*
*We, yearly, watch the roses*
*Or gorse upon a hill*
*Repeat the parable—*
*And have no choice:*
*God thunders in the hush*

JAMES WALKER.

*OLD TOWNS RE-VISITED—XVII*

# BAMPTON, OXFORDSHIRE—I

***Famous for its Morris dancers, the little town of Bampton is of great antiquity, and once possessed a flourishing leather industry. It is notable for its fine church and in Ham Court there are the remains of a 14th-century castle built by Aymer de Valence.***

By ARTHUR OSWALD

1.—THE MARKET PLACE. ON THE LEFT THE EARLY VICTORIAN TOWN HALL

THE south-west corner of Oxfordshire, where the last ridges and furrows of the Cotswolds sink into the water meadows of the Thames, is a region off the tourist's map. Life here, except where sporadic war activities have intruded, seems to go on at the old, unhurried rhythm, which outside the towns was universal before the coming of the petrol engine. The train which runs out on the single line from Witney to Lechlade, in its leisurely progress through the level countryside is nicely calculated to retard the impatient town-dweller's tempo and to induce a Wordsworthian mood of "wise passiveness." The cows in the fields, the tall elms in the hedgerows, the church steeples all seem to say: "Why hurry?" And if Bampton, the capital of this region, lies two miles from its station, and is (in the words of its suffix) "in the Bush," again there is no hurry. It has too long a history and too much pride to resent the fact that the railway company, in dividing the station's honours, has bracketed its name second with Brize Norton. There the railway company shows its ignorance, for Bampton was a thriving market town when Domesday Book was compiled; and who knows for how many centuries the Bampton morris dancers have celebrated the coming of summer and their own zest for living by dancing through the streets at Whitsun?

Of the three market towns which have shared the supremacy of this corner of the county, Bampton, as the head of the hundred to which it gives its name, can claim precedence over both Witney and Burford. The prosperity of all three in the past arose from their position on the fringes of the Cotswolds, from which they obtained the raw materials of their industries—fells and fleeces. Burford was noted for its saddlery (sheep's hides being used for the cheaper kinds of saddle), Witney was, and still is, famous for its blankets, while Bampton was a flourishing centre for the manufacture and sale of gloves, sheepskin jerkins and gaiters—a trade in which Witney also shared. Dr. Plot, the author of *The Natural History of Oxfordshire*, after referring to the fell-mongers of Witney, goes on to describe how the sheep skins, having been dressed and strained, were made up at Bampton "into wares, viz. Jackets, Breeches, Leather linings, &c., which they chiefly vent into Berkshire, Wilt-shire and Dorset-shire, no Town in England having a trade like it in that Sort of ware." That was in the seventeenth century. A hundred years ago, when Dr. Giles wrote his painstaking *History of Bampton*, the trade was almost dead; only one glover remained, and he was hard put to it to make a living. Bampton had reverted to the condition of an agricultural community, whose farmers preferred the neighbouring country towns to their own poorly patronised market.

2.—THE BAMPTON MORRIS DANCERS PHOTOGRAPHED LAST WHITSUN

The decay of Bampton, in contrast to Witney's continued prosperity, has no doubt been due to its poor communications. Dr. Plot comments on the bad state of the roads and tells how the Bampton people often preferred to strike out on foot across country. Lying neither on a main road nor at a major river crossing, it is surprising that it should ever have become a place of importance. Two miles from the Thames, it grew up round a meeting place of three ways on the east side of a stream, which divides Bampton proper from the neighbouring hamlet of Weald. The northern road forks, south of the station, for Burford and Witney; the other two go off westward and eastward to the Thames crossings—the former through Clanfield to Radcot Bridge, the latter to Tadpole Bridge opposite Buckland. But this last bridge only dates from 1802 and the older route is the one which passes through the hamlets of Aston and Coate to Shifford, which was probably the river crossing before the building of New Bridge farther downstream—"new," that is to say, when it was built in the reign of Henry VI, but to-day, like Radcot Bridge, an historic monument. Farther west, there was St. John's Bridge at Lechlade, records of which go back to the fourteenth century, so that mediæval Bampton, though lying to the north of the Thames and drawing its raw materials from that side, had comparatively easy means of access to the shires of ancient Wessex which lay to the south.

Bampton's streets are lined with modest stone-built houses, some of them still stone-slated. Though outside the Cotswold area, the town lies within the orbit of Cotswold building traditions, but here roughstone walling is far commoner than the fine freestone masonry of the Cotswolds proper. At the junction of the three ways stands the early Victorian town hall or market house, built on arches (Fig. 1), though too late, one would think, to serve any very useful purpose for a market that had already decayed. The wide market place would look better if some grass and trees could be introduced, as along Broad Street, leading northward, where the cottages

lie back behind grass verges planted with limes (Fig. 6). Two or three of the older shops show some pretty features, like those in Fig. 5, where two modest bows have kept their original glazing and, against the adjoining house, to the left, a pentise supported on posts protects customers from the rain. The grocer's shop provides similar protection with its elongated porch, which also does duty as a balcony above and has nice Regency or early Victorian ironwork for its balustrade (Fig. 4). In the north-west segment of the town stands the church and an interesting group of houses disposed around it almost in the manner of a cathedral close. Some of these will be illustrated next week. Bampton is remarkable for the number of its substantial stone houses, each standing in its own grounds. There are, too, more modest houses like that in Fig. 3. Standing in the street leading eastward to Aston, it has an excellent shell hood over its doorway into which the plasterer has worked a little trophy of fruits and flowers—a bunch of grapes, hops, pomegranate, rose, tulip and vine leaves.

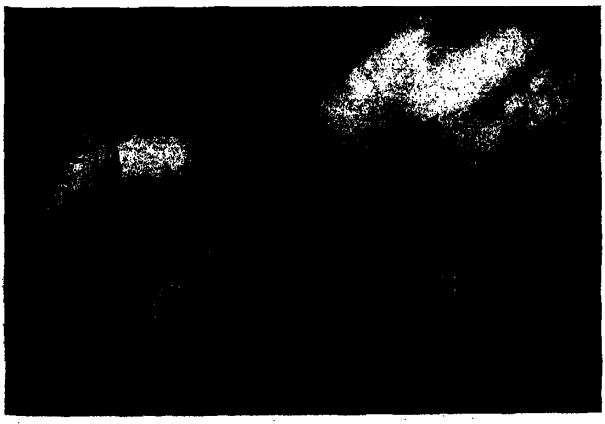
But this is to anticipate. Probing deeper into the history of the little town, we must take a great leap back to Domesday Book and beyond into the days of the heptarchy, when Oxfordshire for so long was the debatable land between Wessex and Mercia. The "ton" may have originated as an outpost of Wessex at a time when the West Saxon fortunes were in the ascendant, but this is mere conjecture. It has been identified by some with the *Beandune* of the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle, where the Wessex King Cynegils and his son, Cwichelm, defeated the Welsh in 614. Traditionally, it was to Bampton that St. Frideswide repaired when, warned by the angel of the wicked King Algar's nefarious intentions, she went by boat with her maidens to *Bentone* and there found refuge in a swineherd's hut in the woods. The chronicle which gives this version of the legend relates that the party reached Benton "in less than an hour," which for 20 miles of upstream rowing must excel the finest Oxford records; but the boat, we are told, had in it a youth "with a shining angelic face."

On the solid ground of Domesday we find Bampton a royal manor, yielding a yearly rent of no less than £80, and it had formerly been larger still. It already had a market, bringing in 50s. a year. The corn rent was £15; there were four mills, and the fisheries were worth 20s. Appurtenant to the manor there were salt pans at Droitwich, as there were also to the Oxfordshire manor of Great Rollright—a reminder of the importance of that commodity in early days. There is mention of

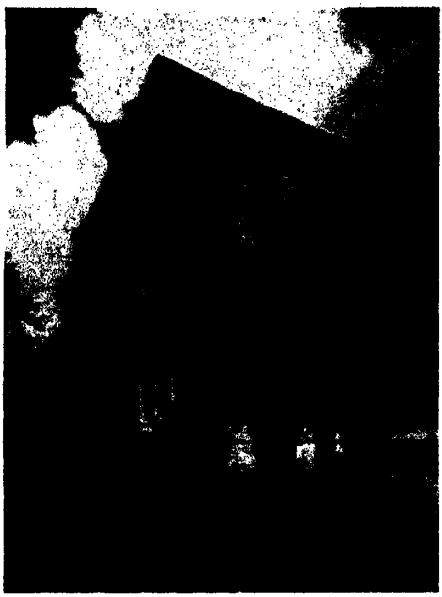
3.—HOUSE WITH A SHELL HOOD IN HIGH STREET

4.—A SENSIBLE PORCH TO THE GROCER'S SHOP WITH EARLY 19th-CENTURY IRONWORK

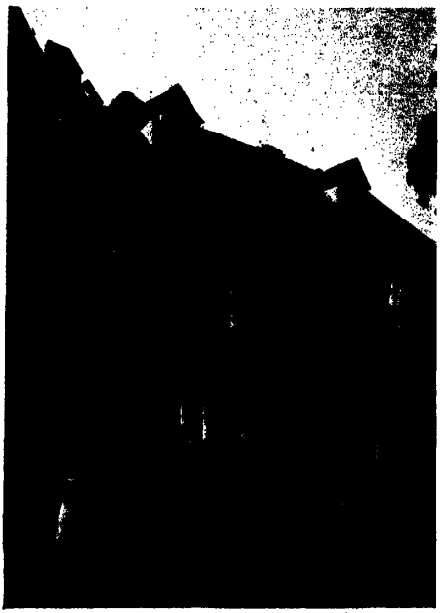
5.—BAMPTON SHOPS: A PENTISE PORCH, HOODED DOORWAYS AND BOW WINDOWS



6.—COTTAGES IN BROAD STREET BEHIND A WIDE GRASS VERGE



7.—HAM COURT. THE WESTERN GATEHOUSE OF AYMER DE VALENCE'S CASTLE



8.—EAST SIDE OF THE GATEHOUSE AT HAM COURT
On the right an early 14th-century window *in situ*

woodland which Bundi, the forester, had held in the Confessor's time. Both the name of the adjoining hamlet of Weald and the old suffix of Bampton "in the Bush" suggest that the surroundings were more wooded than they are to-day. Domesday also mentions the six hides belonging to the see of Exeter which Bishop Leofric gave to his cathedral in or before 1069. Of this other manor, which came to be called Bampton Deanery, there will be more to say next week, but in passing, the link with south-west England may be noted. As tangible evidence of the importance of the place at the time of the Domesday inquest there is the 11th-century work still remaining in the eastern arch and lower walls of the church tower. Bampton possessed a stone church when most churches were still of timber. The fact that it was a royal manor, taken together with its position as head of the hundred (or, rather, of two hundreds which were subsequently united) points to its having been a centre of local administration in much earlier times, before the units of shire and hundred had been systematised, when the King's food rent was collected from wide areas each dependent on a royal estate.

If the antiquity of Bampton has been emphasised, it is because references to the town in mediæval times are disappointingly few. But it seems to have prospered, to judge by the successive reconstructions of its church. There were three main periods of enlargement and re-building—in the twelfth century, about 1270, and again in the fifteenth century—which may have coincided with three periods of prosperity and expansion. Twice at least the even tenor of Bamptonian life was interrupted by cross-currents of English history. In 1387 took place the skirmish—for it was little more—between the lords appellant and Richard II's favourite, Robert de Vere, Earl of Oxford, near Radcot Bridge. Abandoned by his supporters, de Vere rode off to the bridge, which he found broken down, but forcing his horse into the river made good his escape. Thirteen years later the men of Bampton, together with those of Wantage, Faringdon and Cirencester, rose in support of the abortive plot engineered by King Richard's friends to dethrone Henry IV, but the rising was easily quelled.

Meanwhile, Bampton had acquired a castle, remains of which still exist in the house now known as Ham Court. It was built by Aymer de Valence, Earl of Pembroke, whose father, William de Valence, Henry III's half-brother, had received a grant of the larger moiety of the manor of Bampton in 1249. A licence to fortify his house at Bampton was issued to Aymer in 1315. He had been Edward I's commander in the campaign against Robert Bruce, but when Edward II deprived him of the guardianship of Scotland, he threw in his lot with the "Ordainers," who were determined to get rid of Gaveston, the King's favourite. The murder of Gaveston, however, brought him over to the King's side. Aymer had pledged his word to spare Gaveston's life and could only regard the kidnapping and murder of his prisoner as a personal affront in which his honour was involved. His subsequent actions were influenced less by devotion to the King, whom he probably despised, than by his resentment towards Lancaster and the Earls who had flouted him. It was at this stage in his career that he obtained the licence to crenellate, in the year after Bannockburn, where he had shared in the defeat that wiped out all Edward I's Scottish conquests. Aymer's participation in the Scottish campaigns had a personal aspect, for John Comyn, who was slain by Bruce at the altar, was his brother-in-law. The later succession of Bampton passed by way of the daughter of Joan de Valence and the Red Comyn.

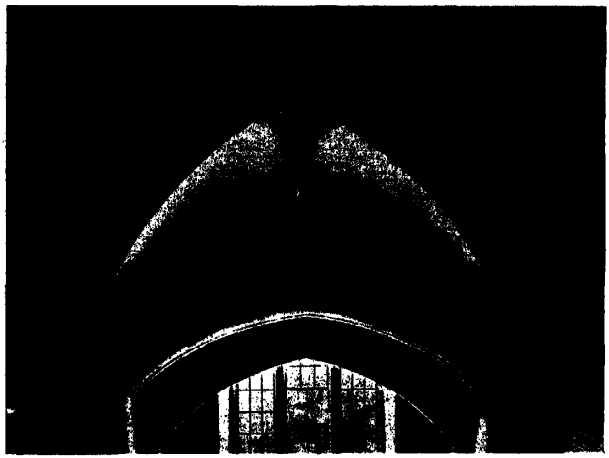
Ham Court lies west of the Highmoor Brook, which divides Bampton from Weald. When Anthony Wood, the Oxford antiquary, visited it in 1664, a good deal more of the structure existed than at present. Having stayed the night with one of the Bampton vicars, "the next morning very early I went to the castle neare the church there, and took the ruins thereof." His sketch, elementary as it is, shows that the whole of the west curtain wall was then standing; the gatehouse appears centrally, and there are flanking towers at the angles, walls and towers being battlemented and liberally provided with cross-slits. Wood describes the building as quadrangular and having been moated, with round towers at each corner, and "a larg and high gatehouse tower-like on the west and east sides (some say on every side)." It is not known when the castle (all but the existing fragments) was pulled down. No doubt it was used as a quarry, and it may have provided material for the erection of Weald Manor, an early 18th-century house on the other side of the road, which will be illustrated in a subsequent article. What now remains is the western gatehouse converted into a dwelling (Figs. 7 and 8), a stretch of the curtain wall running south from it and portions of the adjoining rooms on the north side. In the middle of last century a hideous Victorian addition was built on to the south side of the gatehouse behind the curtain wall.

The flat, moated site made possible a regular quadrangular plan—the normal castle plan in the fourteenth century, when fortified houses rather than true castles were being built by the nobility. Maxstoke and Bodiam, both later than Bampton, are the best preserved examples of a type which Mr. Hugh Braun derives from Beaumaris and suggests may first have been introduced in its modified form without the secondary curtain wall by Nicholas de la Beche in his three castles of Aldworth, Beaumyss and Watlington. The two former were in Berkshire,

the third in Oxfordshire. Bampton, however, antedates these three by nearly quarter of a century. As all the surviving work accords with the date of licence for crenellation and as the building from Wood's description and sketch was both uniform and regularly planned, the inference is that the castle was erected and completed within a comparatively short time.

The curtain wall south of the gatehouse has been stripped of ivy since our photograph was taken, and now again reveals the two tall œillets or cross-slits shown in the engraving published in Turner's *Domestic Architecture of the Middle Ages*. There is a third cross-slit in the remaining merlon of the battlements. Impressive as these features are, the gatehouse itself does not give the suggestion of having been designed for great strength. It is now covered by a gabled roof, but the buttresses on the west side are well preserved (Fig. 7) and, within, an octopartite vault of two bays with central bosses of carved foliage remains in the upper rooms formed out of the passage-way (Fig. 9). The photograph also shows the inner and outer arches of the entrance gates. The eastern side of the gatehouse is seen in Fig. 8, its arch now blocked and the filling pierced by windows. At the south-east corner a stone newel lighted by tall, narrow lancets gives access to the floor above now consisting of attics. Fig. 10 shows the lower portion of the northern jamb of the eastern arch of the gateway and beside it a contemporary doorway. The adjoining building to the north, which is now under the same roof as the gatehouse itself, contains a two-light window with transom and quatrefoil head, lighting the first-floor room, in which the hooded fireplace (Fig. 11) is preserved. Fine freestone is used for all the important features, and the excellence of the work suggests that Aymer de Valence was able to employ one of the leading master masons of the time.

There is no evidence that the castle was ever the scene of important events, although in 1321, in the year before his defeat and execution, Thomas, Earl of Lancaster, is said to have appeared at the head of a private army at Bampton. On Aymer's death in 1324, manor and castle passed to his niece, Elizabeth, by whose marriage they came to Richard Talbot, ancestor of the Earls of Shrewsbury. A worn effigy of a knight in the chapel on the east side of the north transept in Bampton church may commemorate a 14th-century Talbot. The Earls of Shrewsbury continued to hold the castle and a moiety of the manor up to last century, when the property was bought by Jesus College, Oxford. When the fitting up of the gatehouse as a dwelling took place is uncertain, but both on the upper and lower floors within it are fireplaces of late Tudor character. Wood's sketch, however, shows that the gatehouse, "where is a ruined entrance," was battlemented and that there was "an old gothick window over it." It is clear that the entry had not then been filled in. But adjoining it to the north he depicts "a little cabbin built on ye wall of a late standing." Presumably, therefore, the "cabin" was afterwards expanded into a farmhouse by taking in the entry and building out in front of the curtain wall on the north side of the gatehouse. The fireplaces may have been brought from elsewhere. That the castle was at any rate still partly occupied in Queen Elizabeth's reign is shown by an entry in the register of St. Thomas's parish, Oxford, recording the burial of John Saunders "of the castle of Bampton" (February 19, 1601).

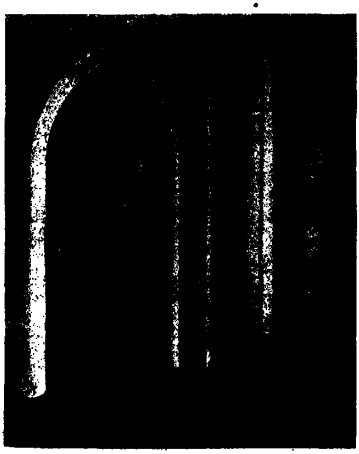


9.—THE RIBBED VAULT OF THE GATEHOUSE IN WHAT IS NOW A BEDROOM

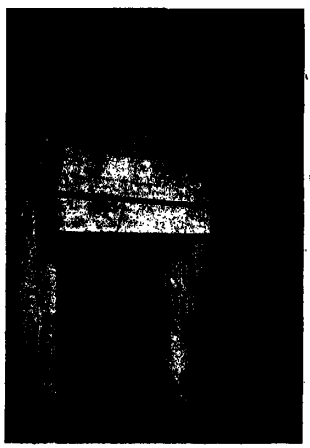
Beyond the castle area northwards there is a further moated expanse, which is thought to have been laid out as a tilt-yard. The tournament was at the height of its popularity at the time when the Castle was built and Aymer de Valence was one of the star performers of the age. Solemn jousts are recorded to have taken place at Witney in 1321, when Aymer's opponent was Humphrey Bohun, Earl of Hereford. Traditionally, he lost his life in a tournament in Paris held to celebrate his marriage to Mary of Chatillon, who years afterwards was to be the foundress of Pembroke College, Cambridge. Both marriage and tournament, however, took place three years before his death. When that occurred the Earl was at the height of his fortunes, having profited by Lancaster's death in receiving grants of his Northamptonshire estates. He lies buried under the exquisite canopied tomb on the north side of the high altar in Westminster Abbey.

At the north-west corner of the moated tilt-yard there is an ancient well, once celebrated locally for its healing properties. To the "Lady Well," as it is called, mothers brought their ailing children to be dipped, and this practice is stated by Dr. Giles, the Bampton historian, to have continued well into the eighteenth century. To the Bampton morris dancers and also to the Christmas mummers Giles alludes, but in rather deprecating terms, and fears that these remnants of the ancient pastimes are doomed to disappear. More fortunate, however, than many English towns and villages, Bampton still has its morris men, who are seen in the photograph taken this Whitsuntide (Fig. 2) still very much alive and leaping.

*(To be concluded)*



10.—STONEWORK WITHIN THE GATEHOUSE



11.—14th-CENTURY HOODED FIREPLACE

# SEEN ON THE FELLS

By DELMAR BANNER

*(With Illustrations from Paintings by the Author)*

YOU never know what you will see or hear on the Fells or in the Dales. Perhaps, also, the unexpected either seems more anomalous, or else more significant, because the Fells have so strong, separate and uncompromising a character of their own. The incongruous, if false and artificial, is intolerable; if calamitous—like the crash of an aeroplane—it takes on a double grimness. Man or woman, or any memorial or work of man, alone on the mountains, becomes central and typical; and paradoxically great in proportion to man's physical littleness. Sheep were seen by Wordsworth looming out of 'mist "like Greenland bears."

In the valleys, and especially at the dale heads, a home is the meeting-place of the snug and the sublime; and a conjuncture from the outside world may, for a time, make it seem different from what it had ever seemed, only to subside again, stronger than before, into its own life. On a Sunday evening in September, 1929, we sat on the bench in the little hall of the Old Dun Bull Inn in Mardale, Westmorland. Someone turned on the radio and we heard the service from St. Martin-in-the-Fields, London. The voice of the priest conducting the service; the singing of the London congregation; and the distant hooting and rabbling of the traffic in St. Martin's Lane would be drowned intermittently by the voices and the glasses when the door of the bar-parlour opened and Mr. Daffurn passed with the beer. An oldish woman, in black, moved with a candle up and down the stairs that led to the dark passages, talking in a low voice to herself. The sheep bleated outside in the rain. The overruling unison of separated worlds I have seldom felt more strangely.

An inn can more often provide incongruities less searching, like the apparition which heralded an autumn day for me at Thirlspot, in Cumberland. I was wakened at the King's Head about 5 o'clock by tramping noises, looked out of the window into the mist and beheld an elephant. A travelling circus duly unrolled itself. We were offered the imagination of another variation on the pleasures of Nature at Penrith, in the same county, where we were told that "his lordship" (by which I think was meant the late Lord Lonsdale) had a key which let him into the Beacon (the stone tower on top of the hill of the same name), and that from the top of that, whereas we saw only the mountains of three counties, he could actually see the chimney of the hat-factory at Carlisle.

With other privileges, my wife and I once sat on the warm and heather-covered hillock (called Seat) on the south side of Devoke-water on an August afternoon. The great Fells stood, blue and purple, gold and green, like Persian glaze, yet living and majestic in the sunlight—Pillar, Kirkfell, Gable, the Screes, Scafell, Bow Fell, Crinkle Crags, Harter, the Coniston Fells. Short of the fell-tops, can any place give a sight so splendid as can Birker Moor and the slopes about Devoke? Presently there appeared on the white track leading to the tarn a cheerful, trotting little animal. Suddenly he saw the water and stopped with the unmistakable and lively surprise of a pig. He was pink, fat, happy and very young. In a moment he whisked his tail, kicked his hind-trotters into the air and scampered to the water's edge grunting. It was all like a Handel gigue. He popped into the pool with a plump splash, swam about gaily and vigorously, scrambled back onto the shingle, shook himself dry in a shower of spray, each drop a prism for the sun, and trotted off again on his search for truffles and life. The more serious sheep, responsible ewes with their large, stout, brown "poozles" (or "hogge" as they call these young sheep), looked in astonishment.

On another day I saw a very still, and oddly black, shepherd on Slight Side—who suddenly spread his wings and flew away.

The Georgian landscape-gardeners designed "surprises": and the question naturally arose, "Pray, what do you call the surprise when we come out of the shrubbery the second time?" The wild Fells—a very image of permanence—bring forth from their treasure things new and old every day. We once hurried back from Pillar, seeing rain racing towards us over Burnmoor as we ran down Mosedale. Of course, the rain won. But after our soaking the sun emerged again, and as we came out beyond the wall of Kirkfell, we looked up the Styhead; and there, an arched bridge from Gable to Scafell, was a rainbow of radiant splendour. The most brilliant we (or any of the eight persons present) ever saw appeared in September, 1940, overarching High Arnside as we looked eastward from the Bield Meader, the meadow below our home.

It is, in fact, the incessant and unforeseeable changes that make continuous outdoor painting (for me at least) hopeless, for on the most monotonous day the relations of tone and colour, the centre of gravity of the design, alter without pause. The vaster the view the wider the bounds of possibility.

CRINKLE CRAGS AND BOWFELL FROM WETHERLAM

From Scafell one may see many weathers at once: rain pouring into Borrowdale, sun streaming up the Esk from the yellow sands, the clouds "that march and countermarch among the hills." The great sight is "the mountains of Wasdale in tumult" as Dorothy Wordsworth called them in the letter in which she recorded her climb in October, 1818. Hardly less lovely after the hay is in is what she calls "the delicious green of Eskdale."

Scafell, like Pillar and Gable and Zeus, is a "cloud-compeller." I have gone up many times by Eel Tarn and Stoney Tarn from the Woolpack, or by the Wha House sheeptrack, or from Taw House, and the cloud has come down and the drawing not done as hoped for. Yet other glories have appeared, and not least those that the clouds have caused to take on a new aspect: Pillar from Great How or the Black Apron; Hardknott and Coniston Fells from the same spot, with tier beyond tier of heather and peat, with gold and russet and tawny grass below, and the last light on the summits; the great grey-blue amphitheatre at the head of Eskdale; or, so often sunlit by itself, Muncaster, Ravenglass, and the sea.

We went up on April 23, 1943, with our two boys, then aged seven and eight respectively. We came on the wreckage of the Polish aircraft which had crashed there in the previous July. (There are far too many of such catastrophies on the Fells. I came on one in August, 1944, a few hours after it had occurred.) Between Horn Crag and the top we gazed down the precipices to the white thread of the stream far below. The children held our hands.

Suddenly we saw on a "bink" quite near—perhaps a hundred feet under our crag—a fox, curled up like a cat and as yellow as a cat. He saw us, too, and slunk round a bracken with his tail as straight as a poker. There was a ewe with two early lambs already on the ridge above, scenting danger. The boys barked loud; country-bred voices can mimic animals to good purpose.

The clouds were rolling over the crest but

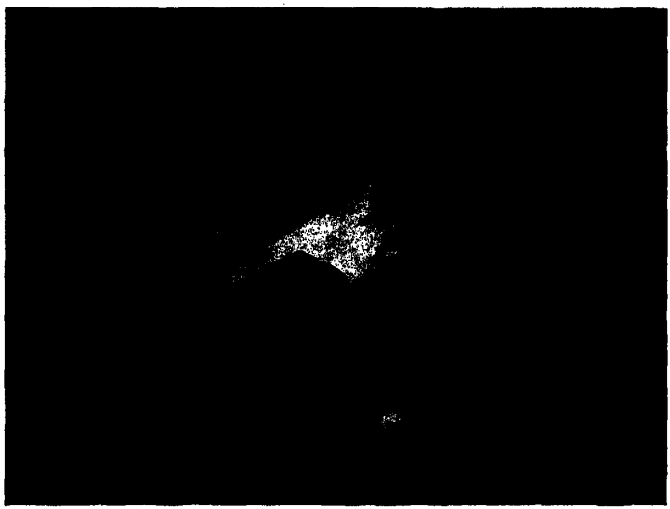
we took the children on to the top, thus "fostered alike by beauty and by fear." As we came down again we emerged from under the blanket of the dark and sat down to look at the sunshine spread bright over the screes and shimmering in the waters of Burnmoor Tarn and of the sea.

My wife was once on Gable in rolling cloud. Suddenly the sun blazed out at her feet, as if the earth, or at least the mountain, had tilted back. It was the sun's shining reflex in Wastwater.

Even more wonderful is the stepping out above cloud into a sunlit ether, where mountain summits stand like islands on a sea of mist. It is an experience which can virtually never be foreseen and, once seen, can never be forgotten. Wordsworth, in the Fourteenth Book of *The Prelude*, describes his stepping out thus into moonlight on Snowdon.

Yet among Fells even the expected is for ever new. We may have gone up a loved summit many times and know the moment when the great prospect on the other side will suddenly lift. Expectation is at its height, yet the reality always surpasses it and in its aspect is never the same.

Some there are who suffer from what Humpty Dumpty called "impenetrability." We once piloted a Scots minister on his first ascent of the Fell behind his manse. The whole glory of crag and precipice, glens radiating, the Atlantic all around, and sister-islands visible for many leagues, burst upon us. "Aye aye," said he, "it's a fine world. I think we'd better go down now." We told our landlady and added, "Isn't the minister rather dull?" She looked at us and replied, "He's a' that."



THUNDER OVER SCAFELL

The Fells are for those with eyes to see and hearts to feel. For such, age cannot wither them, nor custom stale their infinite variety.

# AFTER ST. ANDREWS

*A Golf Commentary by* BERNARD DARWIN

"IT'S galloping all the way now." That, I remember, was the comment of a Scottish professional at a championship in the 'nineties when the Triumvirate had begun to set such a pace as had never been seen before. What would the ghost of that professional have said had he been at St. Andrews on the second day of the Championship? The pace had been hot enough on the first when Locke had his 69, Cotton 70, and there was a cluster of 71's; but it was still more terrific on Thursday. There was Rees's incredible 67 to hoist him right up into the lead, only to be dethroned by Snead with a 70 and equalled by Bulla with 71. And as a final excitement the very last man in the field, Henry Cotton, playing with the calm of a frozen image, did his second 70 and in turn dethroned Snead.

Such collective golf had never been seen on the Old Course before. Bobby Jones's total of 285, on a course perceptibly less tough than that of to-day (I should say it is perhaps a stroke and a half a round harder now) was in grave danger. Even I, who am a lover of the past and of past champions, had to admit that golf was getting better and better.

* * *

Then came Friday, and the position had to be reconsidered. The weather was more difficult, beyond doubt; there was a good fresh wind blowing from the left going out and, conversely, from the right coming home; yet it was no more than a normal St. Andrews day and it was not merely the wind that sent the scores up. I suppose the strain of those first two days had been too great and there had to come a breaking point on the last.

At any rate, whatever the cause, a panic set in, and the putting at the last hole or two alone, if narrated at length, would fill this paper. Locke missed a short one at the 17th and took three putts at the 18th. Cotton had a four to tie with him, and he, too, took three putts "from nowhere." Bulla came next and his finish was really so tragical and so full of cruel interest as to demand a new paragraph.

He hit an enormous drive at the 17th, and needed only some lofted iron (a No. 6, I dare say) for his second. In the first round he had gone over the green into the road and taken a seven. In the next two, undeterred by this disaster, he had gone for the green boldly again and got his four each time. Now, wanting a five and a four to beat Locke by two, he sensibly played safe, short, and to the right. It was eminently sensible, but alas! the moral does not work out, and if he had been rash he would probably have done much better. As it was, he played a little pitch, the futility of which cannot be described, and then took three putts; he took three more putts at the last. I know that it is easy for spectators to talk, but this really was, for so fine a player, the most appalling finish I ever saw, at once lamentable and absurd.

* * *

Snead himself was a bit shaky on the way out, but this was no more than the normal shakiness of that horrible fourth round. Once he had had his six (with two bunkers and a whin bush) at the fifth and relieved his feelings by throwing his club at a post, he settled grimly down, and his 35 home was, in the circumstances, a very great effort indeed. He was being kept informed all the while by one special scout of what the others had done, and when he had four holes left to play he knew that, humanly speaking, he could not lose.

There is no doubt at all that he played the best and most consistent golf of the tournament, and he certainly did his 290 without any great help from Providence in the matter of long putts. He putted well and soundly, but the long ones did not drop for him, and he never struck an "inspired" mood on the green. His driving all through was tremendous in length, and the number of wooden club shots he played through the green probably did not amount to half a dozen. No more graceful, and at the same time no more perfectly copy-book, swinger of the club can well be imagined. He is one of the great golfers.

Cotton had played such superlative golf on the first two days and was so palpably captain of his soul, playing exactly to plan, that I confidently expected him to win, as did many others; we were proportionately disappointed. He never recovered from the depressing start in the third round of five fives in the first six holes. He went on trying calmly and resolutely, but he had lost his victorious mood, and in particular he had lost his touch on the greens. He had been holing so many nasty ones; now they would not go in, nor did some of the easy ones. Up to the green he seems to me almost beyond question the most accomplished of all golfers, but "it's aye the putting." He can and often does putt well, but he seldom looks happy on the green, and so makes his supporters feel unhappy. Putting is his heel of Achilles, and I suppose it always will be.

All St. Andrews wanted Rees to win, for his gay and gallant carriage has made him a local idol. He had a great chance, but in such company no one can retrieve a seven at the first hole. If he played at St. Andrews every day for the rest of his life he would probably never take seven to that hole again; he might go into the burn, but he would never take four more to hole out. That is one of the little ironies of golf. I hope and think he will be champion yet, but a year is a long time, there is only one championship each year, and chances do not always recur.

* * *

Finally, I make my most respectful compliments to Colonel Lindsay and to all who devised and carried out the plan for controlling the crowd by keeping them to the side-lines. It worked quite admirably and without a hitch. The crossings were in the right places and perfectly well managed. Personally I have not for a long time seen what I wanted to see so well and with such little discomfort, and I really do not think that any fair critic could say otherwise. The plan might not work, or at any rate not without modification, on another course; but to the geographical idiosyncracies of St. Andrews it is precisely suited. I did not think I should like being a grandstand spectator, but I did.

# PROGRESS AT GOODINGS

By ANTHONY HURD

LIKE all other farms with dairy herds, Goodings, the COUNTRY LIFE farm in Berkshire, will have to rely next winter more than ever before on its own resources for feeding the cows. The announcement of the cut in feed-stuff rations affecting cows, as well as pigs and poultry, came too late in the season to give us time to plan a much bigger acreage of high-quality fodder crops. It is high-quality stuff that we all need in these days for producing milk, especially if we are trying to raise the herd average.

Hay will still be our mainstay next winter. Unfortunately a miserable June delayed our haymaking at Goodings, and the herbage cut from the leys had to be left in the swathe for a full fortnight before the weather mended and allowed us to get on with the job. The apparent damage to the early-cut hay was slight, but prolonged exposure, with the aftermath clover beginning to push through the swathe, certainly has not improved the feeding value of the hay.

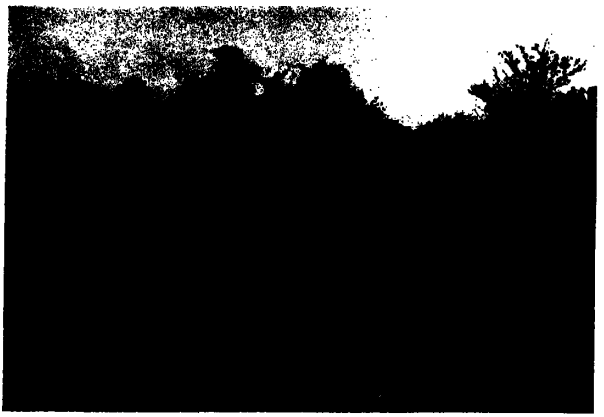
In seasons like this silage-making or grass-drying, taking the material at the really young stage when it is at its prime in protein content and digestibility, offers the best insurance for the cows' winter feed. Both these methods of conserving young grass are laborious, and grass-drying needs expensive equipment beyond the reach of most farmers. Then there is always the thought that, however ill a particular season may behave, the farmer in the South of England can make reasonably good hay in three seasons out of four. But we need to be quite clear in our minds that silage or dried grass made from young herbage is a much higher quality product than hay, made with the assistance of the sun and wind.

At Goodings we made some useful silage in May, and this material is behaving properly in the silo, so we should get some high-quality feeding. Here I should mention that the photograph on this page showing the Hosier-Wilmot loader at work was taken when we were cutting hay in June. We had finished our early bout of silage-making by then, but I wanted a photograph to show the rig-up of this loader hitched behind the mowing-machine and delivering the cut herbage on to a trailer ready for transport to the silo which adjoins the cow-house. The mechanisation of silage-making in this way cuts out most of the heavy labour which deters many farmers from making silage, although they know that they should be undertaking this for the sake of winter milk yields.

The farm manager and I have been discussing the possibility in the future of taking all our grass in the form of silage instead of hay. Here again I am referring to young grass with its high protein content. We should need also a supply of oat straw to give the bulk that the cows want, but this would not be difficult to provide. The white winter oat, S.147, developed at Aberystwyth, does consistently well at Goodings; the grain is of good quality and so is the straw for feeding purposes. The advantages of turning over entirely to silage-making would be that we should get more feed of high protein value; we should be less dependent on weather conditions in June and July; we should need less storage space for the winter fodder and, through earlier cutting, we should be able to turn the cows out earlier in the aftermath grass.

A carefully planned rotation of green crops would be necessary to provide good material for silage-making during the season. We could start off by cutting a new ley, then a permanent pasture, followed by vetches and oats, then rape and rye-grass, then aftermath grass, finishing up with marrow-stem kale and sugar-beet tops, both of which make useful silage.

Quick growth and early cutting are the essential matters. On our land, which is not inherently rich, we need to give liberal dressings of phosphates and nitrogen, applying basic slag in the early winter to the fields which are to be grazed in spring and cut for silage in the late summer, and super-phosphate, applied early in the New Year, to feed young leys that are to be cut early for silage. A dressing of nitrogenous fertilisers is wanted, too. Experimental work here and in the U.S.A. has shown that nitrogen given no more than two or three weeks before cutting the grass increases substantially the protein content. We mean to make a trial of this at Goodings. Nitrogenous fertilisers are easy to get and high-protein feed is precious. If by using the one we can get more of the other, it will be worth while doing. Marrow-stem kale is, of course, a greedy feeder, and will take up to 6 cwt. of nitrogen to the acre and give a good return.



THE HOSIER-WILMOT LOADER AT WORK AT GOODINGS DURING JUNE HAY-CUTTING, HITCHED BEHIND THE MOWING-MACHINE AND DELIVERING THE CUT HERBAGE ON TO A TRAILER

Apart from winter feeding problems, there is little that the farmer can do to help himself by worrying about his cropping at this stage of the season. The winter wheat at Goodings looks quite well. It is a fortnight behind the calendar and the spring-sown barley also suffered from the cold winds and lack of sun in June. The crops are healthy enough, but the weather has kept them back. Marrow-stem kale and peas, both for the dairy cows, look well enough. The potatoes, although they, too, had a slow start, are going on well, and Goodings should be able to make quite a useful contribution to the housewife's supply of one of the few foods that remains off the ration.

## MOTOR NOTES

# THE PACKARD EIGHT

By J. EASON GIBSON

I RECENTLY had the opportunity of trying the latest 8-cylinder Packard, and, although this car is not at the moment available on the British market, I feel that a short description will be of interest as an example of what the large American factories are offering. The car was not submitted for test through the distributors, but was provided through the kindness of a friend in the American Embassy. It was not possible for me to carry out an extended test, but I covered a sufficient mileage to enable me to form a settled opinion of the car.

The engine is an 8 cylinder of 34 h.p., and develops the high figure of 125 b.h.p. at the low engine speed of 3,600 r.p.m. One or two features of interest are included in the specification, notably: the clutch is centrifugally assisted, the front suspension is independent, and an electrically-operated overdrive is optional at a small extra charge. The overdrive reduces engine-speed by 28 per cent. for the same road speed, and should have a noticeable effect on economy and engine-life. Although the current transatlantic fashion of massive horizontal radiator grilles and bumpers has been followed, there is not the usual excessive use of chromium plate. The external appearance of the car does not give the impression of great size, but on opening the doors it is at once obvious that the roominess and comfort are well above the average. The car is in fact easily capable of carrying six adults without crowding; room in the front is increased by the provision of finger-tip control for the gear lever, which is mounted on the steering column immediately below the steering wheel.

All four doors are hinged from their forward edges, which seems a more sensible method than that usually in force. It is obviously safer should a door inadvertently fly open, and it also obviates the embarrassment sometimes felt by lady motorists attempting to get out gracefully. The doors incorporate a light spring which swings the door shut from the full open position; an excellent point this. The standard of finish is high, although the less obvious parts do not receive the same care and attention as the surface finish.

I will not quote speed and acceleration figures, as it was not possible in the time to obtain timed figures, and the speedometer of this car suffered from a common complaint on American cars—over-optimism. The performance, however, is what one would expect from a car with 125 h.p., and the acceleration when using the gearbox is vivid. Under normal driving conditions it is possible to ignore the gear-lever, and do everything on top gear. A fair cross-section of opinion among the drivers in the Embassy service station put the petrol consumption at 14 m.p.g., which seems a good figure for a car of this size and power. One cannot help but be impressed with the smoothness and comfort obtainable in a good American car.

To avoid wastage of stamps, I wish to make it clear that it is not known by the dis-

tributors when the car will be available on the British market.

* * *

The old-fashioned attitude of the police towards motorists is, generally speaking, a thing of the past. This is evidenced by the widespread use of courtesy patrols, to advise and assist rather than to prosecute, and by the official acceptance of the belief that speed *qua* speed is not dangerous. I recently spent an interesting day at the Metropolitan Police Driving School at Hendon, and on the road with a batch of students in the last week of their course. The standard of both theoretical and practical instruction is certainly higher than any I have personally come across. Instead of using a small suburban circuit for driving instruction, long runs are done, giving varied conditions and the opportunity of driving at reasonably high speeds. I was impressed with the way in which the students are taught to be expert drivers, and not just passed out as good enough. They are taught all the finer points of driving, such as: changing down before a corner; if passing another car doing so as fast as possible; on corners or S-bends on which it was possible to get a clear view, making intelligent use of the road to place the car well for the corner, or corners. After twelve months, or 25,000 miles, students can return for the advanced course in which high-speed cars are employed for training, cars of the calibre of Lagonda, Alvis, Railton. If only the standard of driving among all road users was as high as I found among the police, one would have fewer "phenomenal avoidances" and cases of high blood-pressure.

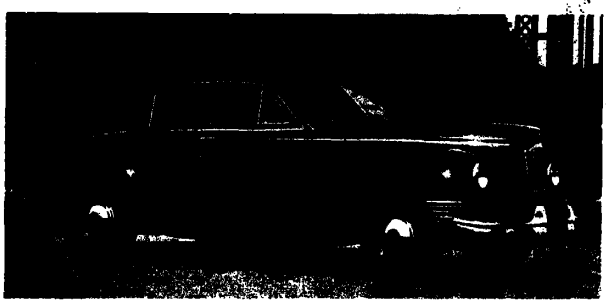
While staying at Kenilworth not long ago, I came across an example of the way in which the police can, and do, give their help to road-users. The children at the local schools are given lectures at regular intervals on road behaviour; not by strangers, but by their own local policeman. At intervals, too, the children's bicycles are examined by the police and any fault, such as defective brakes or tyres, is notified to the child's parents. A check is kept to see that these recommendations are acted upon. An unintentional advantage of this friendly co-operation is that the children have lost their slight instinctive fear of the policeman, and regard him as a friend and helper. If this attitude was more apparent between all types of road users the accident figures would, I think, cease to make such horrible reading.

* * *

On meeting a friend just back from the Forces the other day I was reminded during our talk of the many interesting developments one came across on vehicles, which one day will be featured on all modern cars. Some of these have, I understand, reached the drawing board in the U.S.A. for use on private cars. One in particular which impressed me very much when first it was encountered, is the fully automatic hydraulically operated transmission system employed on certain armoured vehicles. In this system there is neither gear lever nor clutch, but only a simple drive control with two positions: neutral and drive. The engine is warmed up in neutral, and then at a tick-over the lever is moved to drive. All that is now required is to open the throttle and the car moves off; to change-up the accelerator is momentarily released, and to carry out a downward change the accelerator is depressed fully. If, on starting, the accelerator is fully depressed, the engine will remain at maximum speed and all changes are automatic until maximum speed is reached on top gear. When pulling up in traffic there is no clutch or gear lever to worry about; one merely brakes to a standstill and on restarting bottom gear is again automatically selected and engaged. There is a certain amount of mental discomfort until one becomes accustomed to doing nothing with the left foot. This system should abolish one of the terrors of motoring — gear-changing. Certainly, after driving a vehicle with this form of transmission, the ordinary gear-box appears to be an anachronism.

* * *

The new Kendal 6-h.p. car is not going to be alone in the ultra-small car field. Both Renault and Mathis have announced new cars. The Renault, of which only bare details are known at the moment, is said to be 4 h.p., to carry four passengers, and to be capable of 60 m.p.h. This may well be so, but it is not likely that with only 4 h.p. available the acceleration and general performance will be sufficient to satisfy the average driver. The Mathis, although of slighter greater power than the Kendal, is only a three-wheeler, and is, I think, unlikely to prove popular on the conservative British market. Both these cars are said to rely to a large extent on light alloys in their construction; certainly when, for purposes of economy, the power is so drastically reduced it is necessary to reduce the weight also. The bodywork on both cars is of true streamline form, based on wind-tunnel experiments. It is sometimes thought that streamlining is required only at high speeds, but this is not so. Comparative tests carried out before the war, with an ordinary saloon against an example of the aerodynamic F.I.A.T., proved that petrol consumption at ordinary speeds was greatly improved.



THE 8-CYLINDER PACKARD "CLIPPER." Note the unusual width of the body

# GYPSY-SHIFTING

By LOUIS QUINAIN

ALL country policemen have to do it. Though not always an easy job, it can be very amusing. It is usually the result of a message we receive that gypsies have arrived on the common, that they are very noisy, have started a huge bonfire, and appear to be dug-in for the night. It usually means that we have to get busy right away.

I once summonsed a gypsy for camping and lighting his bonfire on common land; I then had a cup of tea with him. Not often do I summons gypsies for either of these offences, but this one, at first, was awkward and stubborn, refusing to move when I asked him.

I had visited him the previous day, and he had offered one of the hackneyed excuses as to why he couldn't move—the wheel of his caravan was cracked. I looked all round the wheels but could find nothing wrong. I told him so, and then he said that his "hoss had a gammy foot." Here I was beaten, for I had no means of checking this. All the same, I was inclined to take it with a pinch of salt, for experience has taught me that most gypsies have their stock of tricks and dodges when policemen ask them to move.

Well, when I called to see how the "gammy foot" was, next morning, I found the "old hoss" prancing gaily round a meadow with a neighbouring farmer's colt. The gypsy soon explained this away: a night's rest had "done it the wuld o' good, guv'nor." But he still was disinclined to move, so in the end I told him he would be summonsed. Five minutes later I was drinking tea with him, for no sooner had I written his name and "idenible" number in my notebook than he changed completely—though I must admit a cup of tea was more than I expected.

Gypsies, I find, do behave like that. Once they understand—and sometimes it is difficult to make them—that the policeman is boss of a situation and really means what he says, then they'll forget their excuses, which they hope will enable them to remain a day or so longer wherever they happen to be camped.

Their excuses are numerous, mostly variations of the old and hackneyed ones: that the caravan is about to break down, that the horse is exhausted and cannot move another yard, or that the old grandmother—there usually is one—has suddenly been taken ill and must lie quiet for a while. A very plausible gypsy, I remember, once started looking for a doctor's "sustificate." But it pays to be tolerant and let them have their say, for once they are upset you may have to borrow a cart-horse or tractor to move their caravan back to the road. This is unpleasant. We usually try to avoid it.

There are occasions when we have no authority to shift them, and most of them know it. It all depends on where they camp. If the common or heath is subject to Section 193 of the Law of Property Act, 1925, which forbids them to draw up their caravan or light bonfires, then we can order them to move; and if they refuse we have power to summons them. But if the land is not subject to this Act, and they happen to know it, then, instead of the gypsy resorting to tricks and dodges, it is the policeman who must do so.

There is a knack in shifting gypsies if you know just what to say, but now and again we do meet with an awkward customer. This is when we resort to tricks. A favourite one of mine is to ask:

"What about all this litter you've made?"

Then, if they still prove awkward:

"If you don't clear it up and move away by four o'clock, I'll be along with a summons."

This, of course, is quite a fair trick, for most districts have by-laws forbidding litter. And, anyway, it is no joke arriving there next day to see the thousand-and-one chips and shavings they have scattered around while making clothes-pegs.

Here is another trick, perhaps not quite so fair, and one that I use only as a last resort:

"Ever seen one of these?" I ask them, producing the summons that happens to be in my pocket.

Of course, I dare not serve it—on them. But it makes them blink, even when they know I have no power to summons them for camping. It is indeed surprising how most gypsies react to this. The very sight of that blue paper seems to throw a hoodoo on them. And they'll be gone.

My busiest time with gypsies, the odd-jobbing type, is during autumn, when they have finished hop-picking and are on the move again, camping a night here, a night there, during their trek through the countryside until they come

across a farmer willing to give them an occasional job and to allow them to settle on a corner of his ground for the rest of the winter. During this trek all kinds of fancy messages reach the village policeman wherever they happen to camp for the night. I once had an old lady telephone me to ask "if I would sit up and watch her chickens all night as the gypsies had arrived again and were camped at the back of her house.

One autumn, a year or so ago, I had an extra-busy period. It was the indirect result of my summonsing that awkward gypsy who offered me a cup of tea in hope of mitigation. The common where he had camped was, of course, subject to the Law of Property Act. It was also the favourite spot for most gypsies passing through the village—until I summonsed this one. When the case went to Bench, the magistrates, after imposing a fine of ten shillings, suggested that a notice of warning be erected at this particular spot. Now it is amazing how quickly news will travel round the gypsy world; most of those who arrived later that autumn knew that I had summonsed one of their kinsmen recently. And, though few of them can read, they all knew what the notice had to say.

What did they do? Instead of passing straight through the village as I had hoped they would, they found a fresh spot some half-mile away. Unfortunately, this piece of ground was the only common-land in the village not subject to the provisions of the Law of Property Act. Worse still, it was in full view of several houses and quite near to them; which meant that no sooner had gypsies arrived and started their bonfires than I was called out to move them.

It was purely by luck that I got over this difficulty. After a whole procession had been and gone, the news must have well circulated that I had no power to summons them for camping there. Then, late one afternoon, a gypsy and his family arrived. He was not one of the regulars. I am familiar with most that pass through, seeing them year after year, but this one was a complete stranger. On arriving at the caravan I found Grandma in charge of several children. She told me that her daughter and son-in-law had already gone down the village "to see for a noo spoke for the caravan." I didn't bother to look round it.

Now it was while waiting for them to return that one of the children let loose three Khaki Campbell ducks, which apparently had been secreted in a box under the caravan. I said little—but thought more as the grandmother scolded this child, hurriedly collected the ducks and stowed them away again.

Soon the daughter and son-in-law returned, both spokeless. But I was in no hurry to shift them now. I was not even dismayed to find no peg-shavings around. After inspecting their "idenible" cards, and having a chat about "Lord Hee-Haw," the "filthy columnists," the "diddle bugs," and a few other topics then current, I decided to leave them until next morning. In any case it was nearing dusk and they had no lamps on the caravan.

Well, the job turned out easier than I had expected. I was not even obliged to search the recent daily crime-sheets in the hope of finding someone who had lost his Khaki Campbell ducks, for that evening the sergeant from an adjoining section telephoned with a very interesting report.

"Are they Khaki Campbells?" I asked him.

"Yes," he told me, rather surprised. "Three of 'em."

I had no difficulty with those gypsies. One we "shifted" in a police car that same night, and the rest of the family were gone by eight next morning.

Only three families have ever camped on this spot again, and two of those came during the month it took for the news to circulate—I had arrested one of their kinsmen! Did they hear, I wonder, that is was for *camping* there?

# CORRESPONDENCE

## IN BEDDGELERT FOREST

SIR,—The "high elevation experiment" in tree-planting near Beddgelert has for many years been one of the worst eyesores in Eryri; its form and character can be seen in the photograph on page 22 of your issue of July 5, but this near view does not bring out the disfigurement caused by a vast isolated patch like a badly made chequer board set high up on the otherwise unbroken sweep of mountain.

From the west it completely spoils the incomparable beauty of the Snowdon group for many miles. The harsh lines and violent disregard of the scale of its setting constantly distract the eye and, from scenic considerations, no worse site could have been chosen. May we not hope that it has now served its experimental purpose and can be removed?—W. J. HEMP, *Rod Cyfwarch, Criccieth, N. Wales.*

## MOATS FOR LONDON SQUARES?

SIR,—Colonel Codrington and Mr. Fleetwood-Hesketh have severally and respectively commended hedges and railings as the proper boundaries to urban gardens, thereby sharply disagreeing. But is there not a third alternative free from the objections to either of these, and which, though yet untried so far as I know, should have many advantages *all its* own? That is, a *moat*, which at first blush, I must own, may sound a merely silly suggestion.

But conceive of a wide and shallow tile or concrete canal, no more than six inches deep when brimming full of water, and some eight to ten feet wide—and imagine this waterway enclosing your Square garden on all four sides—a green picture within a blue and silver frame. It is just too wide to be jumped by any ordinary citizen, he could not walk across it without getting wet, yet even a toddling baby could fall into it with no worse consequences than howls and an educative ducking.

For the price of inhospitable view-obstructing railings you would get instead an effective barrier that was actually an added amenity. Elegant little clapper bridges would give entry to the garden at the desired points, having little (lockable) gates if necessary. So shallow a channel could be easily and frequently cleaned out—even emptied and scoured; indeed, a slight continuous flow would take very little water; and for reflections, whether of sky or trees or lights, the merest puddle is every whit as good as Loch Lomond.—CLOUGH WILLIAMS-ELLIS, *Plas Brondanw, Llanfrothen, Merioneth, N. Wales.*

## BIRDS IN PALESTINE: THE HOUSING PROBLEM

SIR,—With reference to the letter "The Robin and the Wren" in your issue of May 17—if the robin and the wren at home take the prize as regards unusual nesting sites I think we can give it to the common house sparrow here in Palestine. It has been interesting to note the various places the sparrows have chosen to rear their families on this station, and one comes to the conclusion that they just "haven't a clue."

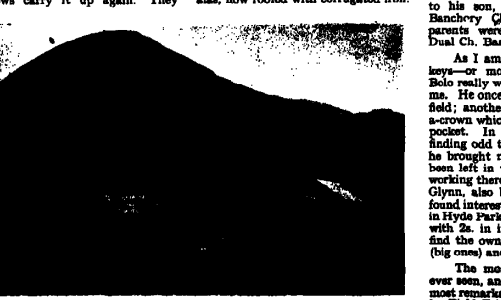
A favourite place is the top of the pipes leading from the stoves of the billets, and one can always distinguish a stove-pipe type as it becomes sooty-black in colour, looking like some new melanic variety of sparrow.

Recently a sparrow short-sightedly built its nest above the hot showers, and when the nest was raked down the eggs were found hard boiled. They nest freely in the offices on ledges just below the ventilators and so fast as the straw is raked down the sparrows carry it up again. They also frequently carry straw into the spinner casings and air intakes on the aircraft, in fact any sort of a depression, hole or pipe, whether it be on a building, vehicle, or aircraft, seems to suit them.

As regards the nesting habits of other birds, the territory per individual breeding pair appears much more limited than in Britain. The lack of water and hedgerows or suitable cover may account for it. This spring in a nearby *wadi*, containing a trickle of water and overgrown with thistles, I was amazed to find common and lesser whitethroats and graceful warblers nesting at intervals of a few yards, while on a patch of ground about 50 square yards, in front of sick quarters, a black-headed bunting, lesser whitethroat and rufous warbler built their nests at the same time.—H. PAUL MEEK, (F.Lt.), *R.A.F. Station, Ramat David, M.E.F.*

## THE CORRIE OF THE WILD CATS

SIR,—I enclose a photograph, taken during a recent visit to the Isle of Skye, of the ruined farmstead of Coire Chatachan, where, in 1773, Doctor Johnson and Boswell were entertained on two occasions by the tacksman, Mackinnon, during their amazing tour to the Hebrides. Of the old house only a few low walls remain, but the byre and stables are still in use, though, alas, now roofed with corrugated iron.



COIRE CHATACHAN, WHERE DOCTOR JOHNSON STAYED IN SKYE

*See letter: The Corrie of the Wild Cats*

Wishing to follow as closely as possible the route taken by the learned dominie, I followed the disused track, which branches off the Torran road, and crossed the Broadford River by the old ford, getting wet feet as I waded through the half-submerged expanse of bog-myrtle. I could have gone by the new crofters' road, which leaves the main Portree highway just north of Broadford, but I preferred the old way, with Coire Chatachan, nestling in the shadow of Beinn na Calleach ("The Hill of the Old Woman"), always in full view.

In the Gaelic Coire Chatachan means "The Corrie of the Wild Cats," but a one-time stalker friend of mine, who has lived practically all his life in Skye, tells me that the *Felix catus* species has practically disappeared from the island, although the learned Dr. MacCulloch lists them in the fauna appendix of his book, *The Misty Isle of Skye*. It would be interesting to know if any wild cats have been observed on the island recently, particularly in view of their increasing numbers on the mainland, as the result of the war.—CYRIL R. ROWSON, *Liverpool*, 11.

## SAGACITY OR SCENT?

*From Lorna, Countess Howe.*

SIR,—The letter written by Lord Dulverton which appeared in the issue of COUNTRY LIFE of June 28 interested me greatly. He states that his Labrador, or rather the Labrador belonging to his son, is a granddaughter of Banchory Chancellor. This dog's parents were both descended from Dual Ch. Banchory Bolo.

As I am extremely careless with keys—or money for that matter—Bolo really was a sort of nursemaid to me. He once found my keys in a hayfield; another time he retrieved half-a-crown which I had pulled out of my pocket. In fact, he was constantly finding odd things of mine. One day he brought me a tea-cup which had been left in the hayfield by the men working there. His father, Scandal of Glynn, also brought me anything he found interesting. In London one day in Hyde Park Bolo brought me a purse with 2s. in it, which, as I could not find the owner, I expended on bones (big ones) and meat for him.

The most curious thing I have ever seen, and I think in this way the most remarkable thing of all, was done by Field Trial Ch. Banchory Donald, a grandson of my Bolo. I was in Scotland in March, 1938, and had "Uncle Donald", as he was called, with me.

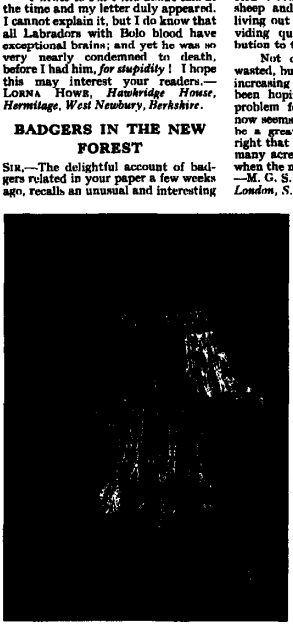
One day, taking some young dogs out on the moor (not Donald), I lost a whistle of which I was very fond. I did not know within two hundred yards where I dropped it. That night heavy snow fell, and after that came a lot of rain. A fortnight after I lost my whistle I was going back to England. I took the dogs out for a run, and thought I would have a final look for my whistle. I sent Don off to hunt, and to my amazement he found the whistle and brought it to me. I cannot explain how he did this; there could not have been any scent, and there was no leather or string, only a thin chain.

I wrote to *The Field* about this at the time and my letter duly appeared. I cannot explain it, but I do know that all Labradors with Bolo blood have exceptional brains; and yet he was so very nearly condemned to death, before I had him, *for stupidity*! I hope this may interest your readers.—LORNA HOWE, *Hawbridge House, Hermitage, West Newbury, Berkshire.*

## BADGERS IN THE NEW FOREST

SIR,—The delightful account of badgers related in your paper a few weeks ago, recalls an unusual and interesting experience I had some years ago in the New Forest. I was walking in one of the enclosures with my small Cairn terrier and a friend, when suddenly we came upon two large badgers sharpening their claws on a tree trunk, as cats do. They were quite unperturbed at seeing us and my dog, and just ambled off into the thick undergrowth and disappeared. I held my dog, for fear he would get clawed by them. This was in broad daylight, about 7 p.m. in May.—(Miss) C. M. ALEXANDER, 19, *St. Thomas Street, Winchester, Hampshire.*

[We congratulate our correspondent on her interview with the badgers. Badgers often rear up against trees to scratch and rub their chests, but their claws are not, like those of the cat, retractable and their scratching is not quite the same thing as the claw sharpening of the cat.—ED.]



A MASKED INITIATE
*See letter: In the Maluti Mountains*

## COMMONS OF EXMOOR

SIR,—When all efforts are being made by farmers to cultivate every possible piece of land to produce more food, it is rather a shock to see the commons of Exmoor, which used to provide keep for such a large head of stock, now apparently deserted.

The commons of Exmoor consist mostly of the highest part of the country. They are surrounded by banks with a thick hedge of beech growing on the top, making an excellent shelter. Main roads run across these commons, and gates were placed where the common lands ended to prevent stock from straying. Of late years the motor traffic has increased enormously. The heavy lorries drove through these gates, making matchwood of them, their drivers taking the quickest way through. So at present there are no gates at all, and it is therefore impossible to keep any stock on the hills. In the old days Red Devon cattle, Exmoor horned sheep and Exmoor ponies, found a living out there, the two former providing quite a considerable contribution to the nation's needs.

Not only is the grazing being wasted, but the gorse and bracken are increasing rapidly. The farmers have been hoping for a solution to this problem for some time—the feeling now seems to be that publicity would be a great help to them. It seems right that people should know why so many acres of keep are being wasted when the nation is crying out for food.—M. G. S. BEST, 10a, *Cresswell Place, London, S.W.*10.

## THE CATS AND THE CLAY

SIR,—I don't suppose anyone really understands the working of a *cat's brain*; that, perhaps, is why they are such lovable creatures. Yesterday I brought into the house a rug full of gault—the clay of this Wealden area—from which the Roman potters made their pots here. Now, every one of our six cats queues up to sit on this clay in the rug. Why? The surface isn't dry and smooth, far from it; it is damp, and being all broken up into nodules is as uneven as a newly harrowed field.—A. G. WADE (Major), *Ash Cottage, Bentley, Hampshire.*

## IN THE MALUTI MOUNTAINS

SIR,—We had climbed up the 800 feet to the summit of the Thabanamorena, and were admiring one of those distant views across the Maluti Mountains, which in the crystal clear Basutoland atmosphere permit a vision that otherwise one can see only on infra red photographs, when a small group of people came down one of the valleys ululating as they approached the place where we were sitting. It was difficult to make out what they were from afar, because of their shining white faces painted with white clay. They had their reed masks on the backs of their heads like a Spanish comb, but as soon as they saw us they quickly slipped them forward covering their faces because during the time of their initiation they are not allowed to be seen by men. We were obviously in the way and they stayed around waiting for us to go. In the end, they decided that they could not get rid of us and so they just pretended we were not there.

First one and then another slipped off their masks; then they stood in a circle, and five of them sang, whereas two started dancing the Song of the Birds, a wooing song which depicts in dance and in words the romance of two birds. Then all the girls walked in an ever-narrowing circle, spreading out their arms in flying movements: their song was to the effect that they were girls, still unmarried and free like the birds, and that these were their last days in which to enjoy their freedom flying across wide spaces. They made a striking group, as the photograph shows, seen against the vast upland panorama.

In older times it was different; the utmost secrecy was law, and intruders met with death. But now that it has lost its grimness, the initiation festival has become a pleasant pastime for the girls who are approaching marriageable age in Basutoland.—H. V. M., *London, N.W.5.*

THE FIVE-SAILED MILL
*See letter: A Yorkshire Windmill*

## A YORKSHIRE WINDMILL

SIR,—Although four-sailed windmills are common, five-sailed examples are rarities. Readers of COUNTRY LIFE may therefore be interested in an example of the latter, particularly as it stands in a district not prolific in windmills.

This specimen stands close to the main road leading from York to Wetherby, and is surrounded by a housing estate. Although the actual sails are now missing, the five arms remain, and outwardly the mill appears to be in reasonably good condition. It is of the tower type, as the accompanying photograph shows.

One wonders whether the Windmill Section of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings have noted this unusual example.—A. GAUNT, 45, *Haworth Road, Heaton, Bradford, Yorkshire.*

## WILLIAM KENT

SIR,—There is a danger that during the eclipse of architecture (temporary, we hope) we may lose our sense of values. I was brought up in the teaching that William Kent was a poor painter and took to architecture and did worse, a belief which nothing I have seen since alters.

His detail was fulsome, heavy, and over-elaborated without any of the gaiety of continental Baroque, or the refinement and inventiveness of the Adams; his essays in gardening were even more unfortunate. There was in his time a rage for the romantic and "picturesque," fanned by a strong literary affectation for the quasi-classic.

It was not so much gardening as an effort to bring the landscape up to the house, in doing which it destroyed an infinite number of formal gardens, the traditional and appropriate setting of the Stuart and Queen Anne houses. That it was successful in some of the older hunting parks is not to be denied, but it had an unfortunate result, in the energetic and ruthless hands of "Capability" Brown, of putting real gardening out of business for more than a century. In fact, gardening in England was under a cloud from 1750 to 1890, and was not revived until late in the nineteenth century by Street and Shaw and their contemporaries, culminating in the Jekyll-Lutyens partnership.

Rousham is an interesting curiosity, and as history an amusing survival. Its serpentine "rill," its romanticised cottage and eye-catcher are jokes which, in their repetition down to Victorian suburban gardens, spread horror over many a growing town of the late nineteenth century.—HAROLD FALKNER, 24, *West Street, Farnham, Surrey.*

[It is to m[illegible]e teaching, in which Mr. Falk[illegible]ho was brought up, that it is w[illegible]lishing some of Kent's actual [illegible] Are Chiswick House, or the H[illegible]se Guards, fulsome or dull? Is the landscape of Stowe "unfortunate"? Is the picturesque, as represented by the now traditional English countryside, a bad thing? Indeed, has England ever created—and do we want—the grandiose symmetry and avenues of continental autocracy? Kent, who in a visual sense was a kind of link between the romanticism of Shakespeare and

DANCING THE SONG OF THE BIRDS
*See letter: In the Maluti Mountains*

THE TUDOR ROYAL ARMS AT SANDWICH. (Right) CHARLES II's ARMS ON SPARROWS HOUSE, IPSWICH

*See letter: The Royal Arms in Plasterwork*

Wordsworth, certainly did not destroy "an infinite number of formal gardens." Indeed, with the exception of the small Jacobean terraced garden at Rousham, he is not known to have destroyed any. And why must all gardens be formal? The interest of the *dilettanti* in what they considered Gothic and romantic, which Kent to some extent shared, was, *it is true*, a powerful influence in the eventual break-up of the classic tradition, and it is perhaps this aspect that Mr. Falkner has in mind.—ED.]

### SILAGE MAKING

SIR,—I was much interested in the suggestion made by Cincinnatus in your issue of June 28, and referred to in your leading article, about silage making. I attended a silage making demonstration in 1940 or 1941, and realised that the small farmer could never do the job properly himself. I therefore suggested the formation of "silage gangs," but was informed by the organisers of the demonstration that this was not their business—all they were asked to do was to show how the job was done.

Subsequently I discovered that the War Agricultural Committee at Lindsey in Lincolnshire had had the same idea and had put it into practice. The success was great. Organisations on similar lines would be a great help at the moment.—(MRS.) E. R. JACKS, *Windrush, Sholover Hill, Headington, Oxford.*

[Some of the War Agricultural Committees in Wales organised mobile teams to help the small dairy farmers there to make silage from kale last autumn. Kale is at its most nutritious stage in the autumn, and there is scope for an extension of this service as well as the silage making from aftermath grass.—ED.]

### THE BRIDGE OF AUGUSTUS AT RIMINI

SIR,—The photograph accompanying Mr. Styles's letter, published in your issue of June 28, shows what was in fact the only bridge, stone or otherwise, over the River Marecchia at Rimini. It was stout enough to carry the bulk of the Eighth Army traffic, including tanks, for many months, without receiving any damage.

The slightly older "Consular" bridge at Savignana, a few miles up the Via Emilia, leading to Bologna, was not so fortunate, being totally destroyed by the Germans before the Canadian forces reached the town.—DAVID LLOYD-LOWRAS, (Lieut.-Col.). *Leith Grove Cottage, Hedgerley Green, Slough, Buckinghamshire.*

### OLD TOASTERS

SIR,—Recently, when in Gloucester's extremely interesting Folk Museum, I noticed two toasters which seemed to merit comment. One was an 18th-century trivet toaster of a familiar pattern (steel, with a friction spring adjustment) but of uncommonly fine quality. I photographed it, not very happily, on an old upturned farm measure. The other is a brass toaster which is presumably early nineteenth century, but I personally, though interested in toasters, have never before seen this pattern, and Mr. J. Seymour Lindsay's book is not to hand. The base is heavily weighted, and the general arrangement of the "arm" suggests a modern table lamp. I should imagine that this pattern of toaster would prove most convenient in use, even before a modern gas or electric fire. It would be interesting to know if any of your readers are acquainted with similar pieces and whether they have some idea of their date and provenance. I am indebted to the curator of the museum for permission to photograph the two toasters.—J. D. U. WARD, *Copgrove, Kennington, Oxford.*

### A TREE CREEPER'S NEST

SIR,—The phrase, "It's an ill bomb that blows no one any good," came to me when I found a tree creeper's nest in a *Sequoia Wellingtonia* in my garden. A fragment of a bomb in 1940 had split the bark, leaving a triangular space between the bark and main wood. In this space the nest has been built, and the bird is now sitting. We are on the watch for the little ones.

I had hoped to take a photograph, but my baby camera will not do it.—MAURICE P. CRAWFORD, "*Newlands*," *Park Hill, Bexley, Kent.*

[The tree creeper loves split-off bark as a nesting site and will often accept a "nest-box" made by taking a sheet of bark and fastening it, leaving a space behind it, to the trunk of a tree.—ED.]

### SNAKES' EYES

SIR,—In your issue of June 21 a correspondent discusses the shape of snakes' eyes and, in particular, the question whether venomous snakes can be recognised by their "almond" eyes.

The pupils of snakes' eyes are of three types, namely rounded, by far the most common type, vertically elliptic and horizontal. The last-named form is rare and is restricted to a few species only. Rounded or vertically shaped pupils are to be found in both harmless and poisonous snakes. All the *Viperidæ*—vipers, pit-vipers and rattlesnakes—have vertical pupils; all other poisonous snakes, namely the *Elapidæ*, which include the cobras, kraits and coral snakes, and all the Australian poisonous snakes, and the *Hydrophidæ* or sea snakes, have rounded pupils. The vertical pupil is usually associated with nocturnal habits, but some strictly nocturnal species, such as the kraits, have round pupils.—MALCOLM SMITH, *Putney*, S.W.15.

### BLACKTHORN INTO WALKING-STICK

SIR,—I should be indebted for any information regarding the process necessary to transform the hedgerow blackthorn into a presentable walking-stick. I have managed to cut myself several tolerably straight stems of the requisite length, and have removed the attendant thorns, and would now appreciate advice as to how a high finish and beauty can best be obtained.—T. B. MACASKIE, (Capt.), *High Thatch, Chalk House Green, near Henley, Oxfordshire.*

### THE ROYAL ARMS IN PLASTERWORK

SIR,—Your photograph of the royal arms of James I, wrought in plaster, at Hawksworth Hall, published in COUNTRY LIFE on May 24, reminds me of others.

One, perhaps fifty or more years earlier, is to be seen on the exterior wall of an inn in Church Street, St. Marys, Sandwich. The supporters, a lion and a dragon, would indicate a date not earlier than the reign of Henry VIII and not later than that of Elizabeth.

The other, dating from about 1661 or a little later, represents the arms of Charles II. It forms part of the decoration of Sparrows House, Ipswich, which Miss Elizabeth Harvey illustrated in her recent article on pargetting. Above the achievement of arms are the initials C II R.—F. G., *Manningtree, Essex.*

### A MINIATURE SHOP FRONT

SIR,—My photograph shows what I think must be one of the smallest shop-fronts in the country. It is in the market town of Pickering, North Yorkshire, and I think is still in use as a baker's shop.—(MRS.) W. M. ROSS, *Richerby Cottage, Carlisle.*

AT PICKERING, YORKSHIRE

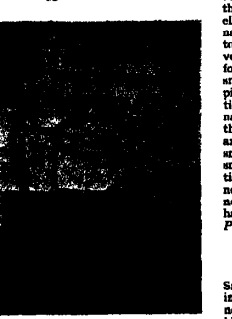
*See letter: A Miniature Shop Front*

### THE COUNTRY CLOCK-MAKER

SIR,—From my work on clock- and watch-makers in Wales, I find that conditions in this country correspond with those described by Mr. Dinsdale for Yorkshire (June 21). As in most Welsh crafts and industries, agriculture was the background to clock-making and many clock-makers were farmers. Such was the case of Samuel Roberts of Llanfair Caereinion, whose register of clocks made by him between 1755 and 1774 proves that he *made* his clocks, which (as Mr. Dinsdale writes of Yorkshire clocks) "took about a fortnight to make and sold for something like £5." Roberts' prices indeed range from £2 to six guineas.

Another farmer-clockmaker, John Tibbot (1757-1820) of Newtown, Montgomery, submitted a free-pendulum clock of his own invention to the

(*Continued on page* 131)



BRASS TOASTER ANTICIPATING IN ITS DESIGN THE MODERN TABLE LAMP. (Right) 18th-CENTURY STEEL TRIVET TOASTER

*See letter: Old Toasters*

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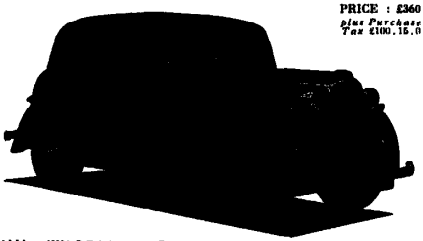

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(*Continued from page 128*)

Royal Society of Arts. In discussing this country clock-maker's claim, Mr. F. Hope-Jones "sympathises with him in having to submit his invention to the 'common clock-makers of the town.'" (*Horological Journal*, 1945, p. 217.) The "town" was, of course, London. In 1816, when Tibbot's invention was submitted, London had few if any clock-makers of Tibbot's calibre.

As Mr. Dinsdale rightly stresses, most of the great clock-makers were of country origin. The lists of the Worshipful Company of Clock-makers bear this out and in the history of the Company, Welshmen, for instance, played an important part. An Honorary Freeman, William Hughes of 119, High Holborn, a distinguished maker of clocks and watches, went to London about 1750 from a village in Anglesey.

It is abundantly clear that in Wales in the eighteenth century movements were the individual work of the country clock-maker and that moreover he engraved his clock dials. There are dials by Carnarvonshire makers engraved with couplets in Welsh from the early poetry, and the above-mentioned Samuel Roberts gives particulars of his dial-engraving; and sundials in many Welsh churchyards bear witness to the country maker's skill in this direction. Even as late as 1828 a Berthyn Tydfil watch-maker was inventing and making his own repeating watches; a Llangollen maker continued to make his own watch movements down to the beginning of the twentieth century. It was in the second half of the nineteenth century, however, that mass-produced movements penetrated into the Welsh countryside.

In view of all the evidence throughout the cultural field, I must confess that I find tiresome the constant reiteration of the curious belief that country life is always barbaric compared with that of London.—IORWERTH C. PEATE, *Keeper of the Department of Folk Life, National Museum of Wales, Cardiff.*

*YORKSHIRE MAKERS*

SIR,—Mr. Symonds in his reply to my letter published in your issue of June 28 casts doubts on the reliability of two witnesses quoted in support of my argument. I hope that at 80 I shall be able to write as competent a letter as the "octogenarian grand-daughter"; the other is not yet a septuagenarian and occupies himself, in his retirement, by running a boys' club! It was about 1905 that, as a youth, he knew the Hebdens. Here are direct links with men who in the late nineteenth century were making their own movements from rough castings. With Mr. Cusner's additional evidence I think this point is now sufficiently established.

Mr. Symonds is obsessed with the 30-hour movement, and would deny to the country clock-maker the ability to fashion even these. Faithfully ruling out county towns and cathedral towns (as Mr. Symonds excepts these centres), here are a few skilled men of Yorkshire who deserve better than the title "small master craftsman."

1. George Ward, Helmsley. Month-clock.
2. Charles Hanson, Huddersfield. Patented detent escapement, 1829.
3. George Savage, Huddersfield. Had much to do with perfecting the lever escapement.
4. Thomas Humphreys, Barnard Castle. Maker of the fine centre-seconds clock which so intrigued Dickens. He was 17 at the time.
5. Thomas Lister, Halifax. Maker of orreries, month, 8-day, and musical clocks.
6. John Prior, Skipton. Received 100 guineas and two silver medals from the Society of Arts between 1798 and 1820.
7. George Prior (son), Skipton, Leeds, London. Maker of remontoire chronometers, clocks and watches. Received 70 guineas and two silver medals before 1829, when he was still in Leeds. Three watches and a clock in the Science Museum at South Kensington.

I could continue this list to burdensome length.

I have carefully examined Mr. Symonds' original article for the phrase "semi-mass-produced," but have failed to find it. It appears in correspondence only when "mass-produced" has been challenged.

In support of his argument Mr. Symonds has produced only a journal of the seventeenth century (not the period in review), an authority of 1747, and a photograph of a late London clock (not the territory in review).—N. V. DINSDALE, *Ingleton Vicarage, via Carnforth, Lancs.*

[Mr. Symonds, to whom we sent copies of Mr. Peate's and Mr. Dinsdale's letters, replies:

"The exception is made the rule when Mr. Dinsdale and Mr. Peate write of £5 clocks and farmer-clock-makers. The many thousands of 30-hour clock movements which have survived from 1790 to 1850 must have cost under £1 to make by reason of the standardisation of design and the poor quality. It was this cheap clock that the majority of the inhabitants in an English countryside could afford to buy and not Mr. Dinsdale's exceptional clock; for £5 in the early nineteenth century was by no means a small sum.

"The following quotation from *Rees Cyclopaedia* (1819) shows how the production of clocks in England had developed along economic lines with sub-division of labour; and how the clock-maker, who made his own clocks in the way Mr. Dinsdale and Mr. Peate insist was done by the country makers of Yorkshire and Wales, was the exception:

'. . . since clocks have become so common as to be considered as articles of household furniture, the art of making them has not been confined to one department of mechanics, but has gradually ramified into various branches, so distinct from one another, that the maker of one part is frequently unacquainted with the operations requisite for the manipulations of another, equally essential. Since the time that clocks became an article of our manufactories, requiring various tools and engines for facilitating their construction, the subdivision of the art into various departments was a natural consequence, which has been found to contribute to expedition, and consequently to cheapness.'

"I did not say that provincial clock-making was 'barbaric' but that it was in the main economic and cheap and in the hands of chamber masters or small clock-making firms, who were centralised and supplied the shop-keepers and also the village clock-makers with their movements ready-made. The master craftsmen who made 'works of superior accuracy' were mainly in London, although there were exceptions—for instance, John Tibbot (of whom Mr. Peate thinks so highly); but the part Tibbot played in English watch- and clock-making was negligible when compared with the work of his eminent London contemporaries—such as Benjamin Lewis Vulliamy (1780-1854), John Roger Arnold, Thomas Earnshaw (1749-1829), and Louis Recordon (1778-1824)."

This correspondence is now closed.—ED.]

## NEW BOOKS

# PRINCIPLES OF AGRICULTURE

SOME useful agricultural books just published include an excellent text-book, *The Principles of Agriculture*, by Ronald Ede (Pitman, 15s.), and another volume of a historical and philosophical kind, *Reconstruction by Way of the Soil*, by G. T. Wrench (Faber, 12s. 6d.), which deals with first principles in a somewhat different way. Dr. Wrench is already well known as an authority on agrobiology, of which he has had a long practical experience both in India and in this country. His present volume might almost be called a short history of fertility, its underlying thread being the relations between civilisation and agriculture as they have affected one another in the course of the ages. The book contains a series of brief histories of the way in which successive peoples have handled their primary biological resources, and have by their blunders in many cases brought themselves to disaster. China, Mesopotamia, the Roman Empire, Islamic Spain, the European colonies in Africa, the British Dominions and Colonies and modern developments in the United States and the U.S.S.R. are all considered in turn. If Dr. Wrench's views are uncompromising it can be said only that he brings together a great deal of evidence in support of his plea for the recognition of natural laws in the symbiosis of the soil and human civilisation, and much that he writes should be pondered not only by agronomists but by students of politics who are concerned with the future of our sadly embarrassed race.

Mr. Ronald Ede has the more limited aim of providing the first volume of a new series of agricultural text-books intended to meet the needs of students in Farm Institutes. The number of these will be greatly increased in the near future, and sound text-books are badly needed. Mr. Ede belongs to the Cambridge Department of Agriculture, and in this introduction to the series covers the material of a one-year general course. The book is simply and unambiguously written, is skilfully arranged and divided and contains most useful maps of distribution of crops and stock on a county basis. It is, of course, unfortunate that for the present these remain on a basis of the figures for 1939. There is no attempt in the volume to suggest or cover laboratory work which—as Mr. Ede points out—will largely be settled by the use of local material, but Part IV, which treats of farming as a business, is of special interest in present circumstances. It not only covers such matters as management and choice of farming systems, but discusses the lay-out of recent relations between farmers and the State, and provides most useful appendices in the shape of skeleton forms for Farm Budgets.

### COUNTRYMAN'S LIFE

THE many books published in war-time which dealt largely with farming and rural work as a definitely war-time effort are gradually merging into those which have a larger background. Many of them, however, still keep their war-time flavour, and are none the worse for that. Miss E. M. Barraud was "One of the First Thousand" to be enrolled in the Women's Land Army. Lest her *Set My Hand Upon the Plough* (The Worcester Press, 7s. 6d.) should suggest by its title only an unending succession of furrows, it must be said at once that it treats of an almost astonishing variety of rural experience. The chronicle is serious and illuminating, and is aptly illustrated with unpretentious and day-to-day snapshots.

Miss Elisabeth Harland, too, has already shown what she can do with the same narrative method in her *Farmer's Girl* and *Two Ears of Corn*, both records of life in war-time on a Norfolk farm. In *Wall Eave the Plough* (Cassell, 8s. 6d.), the chronicles of Gilford are now carried to the beginning of 1945. Miss Harland knows how to write, knows her country and her facts, and knows how to arrange them.

*The Wayfaring Tree* (Hollis and Carter, 12s. 6d.) differs from these war-time chronicles in that its *zest* underlies an observation and description of rural nature without particular reference to the life of the farmer. Its author, "B.B.," has already shown in previous volumes a capacity for achieving by accurate observation, by a careful and precise use of words, effects which may justly be compared with those of his model, W. H. Hudson. *The Wayfaring Tree* is as good as its predecessors, which is saying a great deal, and its attractiveness is enhanced by Mr. D. J. Watkins-Pitchford's bold and effective pictorial commentary in black and white.

Alison Uttley's new little volume, *Country Things* (Faber, 6s.) also gains enormously from its delightful drawings by C. F. Tunnicliffe. Those who have read Mrs. Uttley's previous books will know what to expect in these simple and unaffected memories of a country childhood.

### GOLF MEMORIES

CONSIDERING the fervour, if amounting almost to mania, with which the English practise and discuss their pastimes, I have often marvelled at the singular barrenness of the literature of our sports and, in particular, of our games. There has, however, for long been a brilliant exception. Mr. Bernard Darwin, in his chosen role as recorder of golfing events, has delighted thousands, many of whom freely admit that their interest in golf is non-existent. He would have made a name for himself in any branch of literature: it is the great gain of golfers that he chose as he did. I would go further and state that Mr. Darwin holds an unassailable position as one of the great essayists in the English language. That much of his work has been of necessity done in a desperate hurry (the printers of a great newspaper wait for no man) and that much is lost in the files, is a penalty common to all journalists. Fortunately, from time to time a collection of his writings is given to the public. Of these *Golfing By-Paths* (COUNTRY LIFE, 10s. 6d.) is the latest and, to me, more fascinating than its predecessors. As claimed by the author, these papers offer "some fine confused eating." With no current events to demand discussion during the years of war, Mr. Darwin has been compelled to draw on the "bonded ware'ouse of his knowledge," memories of over 50 years of golf.

The result is a series of sketches of events, and particularly of people, many of whom are now not even a name to the young generation of golfers—to their loss, I take leave to state. Though no *laudator temporis acti* (Mr. Darwin is mentally far too youthful and interested) he argues with some truth that for real hero-worship the object of that worship must be the senior, or, at least, the contemporary of the worshipper. For him it is obviously Mr. John Ball "junior," as well it might be. He argues with truth that the heroes of old had far more individuality, both personally and in their methods, than the great players of to-day, who display a certain uniformity. The book covers the game and its players during a lifetime in which golf has progressed from an esoteric mystery to a universal pastime.

One of Mr. Darwin's most endearing qualities is an unfailing kindliness, humour, and a refusal to be lured into controversy. He admits to a latent conservatism, but he remains outside argument, offering, however, acute observation and conclusions with an admirable detachment. To me, *Golfing By-Paths* has been pure delight. J. A. B.

HARRAP

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# Mrs. BELLOC LOWNDES REMEMBERS

*Reviews by* HOWARD SPRING

THE charming autobiography which Mrs. Belloc Lowndes began with *I too Have Lived in Arcadia* and continued with *Where Love and Friendship Dwell*, now goes on with *The Merry Wives of Westminster* (Macmillan, 12s. 6d.). This volume deals with the period between the author's marriage in 1896 to F. S. A. Lowndes of *The Times* up to the outbreak of the 1914 war. There is no sign that Mrs. Belloc Lowndes is any less interested in her own story now than she was at the beginning. The narrative flows on with that combination of vivacity, charity to others, and plain common sense that has marked the former volumes, and one hopes that, with thirty years of her life still unrecorded, the author will go on with the unfolding of a story that already is a contribution to the history of our times.

Before her marriage, and all through the years here squeezed of their choicest juice, and, as one knows, for many years after that, Mrs. Belloc Lowndes lived in Westminster, never far from St. John's Church. She saw a number of streets which were at first little better than slums become the chosen dwelling-place of the well known and the well-to-do, and the merry wives with whom her title concerns itself are some of the Westminster women with whom her daily life threw her into contact.

### ANGLE OF APPROACH

There are several angles from which one could approach the book. One could, for one thing, find in the merry wives enough of interest and anecdote to serve the purpose, but that would be to suggest too narrow a range. For Mrs. Belloc Lowndes, richly endowed with that aptitude sometimes called "a genius for making friends," by no means confines her attention here to the merry wives. During the almost twenty years of which she writes, there was scarcely a man or woman of note in letters with whom she was not on terms of friendship; and one of the notable things about the book is the series of vignettes of famous writers. It must not be assumed that our author was that ignominious creature known as a lion-hunter. One of the most charming and gracious things about her is that her approach to an author is more often than not at the beginning of his career, when her experience and advice would be of value.

Sometimes her efforts to help a new writer were not encouraged by publishers. For example, she liked Arnold Bennett's first novel, and decided after reading his second that "he had it in him to become a major novelist." She therefore mentioned his name to a leading publisher who replied "that I might as well ask him to publish books written by a grocer." Some years later, this publisher made "a dazzling offer" to Bennett, who refused it.

The accounts here given of Bennett, and of Maurice Hewlett, of "Elizabeth" who wrote of her German garden, of Henry James, "Frank Danby," Rhoda Broughton, and many others are excellent first-hand observation. Of course, much depends on the observer. The Dr. Arnold observed by Tom Hughes is one thing, and the Dr. Arnold observed by Lytton Strachey is another. Let it be enough to say that Mrs. Belloc Lowndes rarely bothers to write of anybody unless she can bring a spontaneous liking to the task.

### EVANESCENCE OF FAME

She raises the sad question of the evanescence of literary fame. "Looking back, I feel it strange how completely certain imaginative writers who deserved and enjoyed a measure of fame now seem forgotten." And, indeed, who among the younger generation has heard of many who were her own contemporaries: "John Oliver Hobbes," as Mrs. Craigie called herself, and Una Silberrad, Beatrice Harraden, Miss Macnaughton, "John Strange Winter," and a score of others. These found the warmth of some approbation while they lived, and there are numberless others who do not find even so much. It used to be my custom to file in envelopes all the reviews I wrote. During the war I took to using those old envelopes, crossing the names off the top. Thus scores, indeed hundreds of names came before my notice, and hardly two in ten awakened so much as an echo in my mind. They had begun and not continued, and now they are sunk without trace.

To go back to Mrs. Belloc Lowndes's kindly interest in young writers: she tells us that she talked over all Hugh Walpole's early novels with him. "He asked me to read the manuscript of *Mr. Perrin and Mr. Trail*. I would back my own opinion against the whole world with regard to a printed book, but when I have to deal with the written or typewritten word, I am a poor judge." Now I should like to know why this is so. That it is so is a fact of common experience. I remember an editor saying to me: "It's one thing when I read it in manuscript, and another when I see it typed, but I don't really know what it is till I see it in the paper." This tallies with my personal experience, and I think publishers of the old days, before a book could be even typewritten, must have had a

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hard and teasing time in making their decisions.

Another angle from which one might approach this book is the light it throws on the great difference in domestic affairs between our times and the 'nineties. None of the "merry wives" ever did a stroke of housework, "and when came the first baby a nurse was at once installed." It is possible to speak of a woman as an excellent employer because she gave her servants their Sundays off; and Mrs. Belloc Lowndes's own "daily woman" came at eight in the morning and stayed till nine at night. Food was cheap, household wages were low, and therefore those who could entertain at all did so lavishly. Divorce was still a matter to be whispered about. "I remember a friend of mine, in every sense a woman of the world, telling me that if her brother was made co-respondent in a divorce case, as seemed possible at the time, she would behave exactly as though he had died, and for a while would give up going out." And one of Mrs. Belloc Lowndes's early novels failed to be serialised because of "the shocking fact that there was an allusion to a child born out of wedlock."

A strange, remote and fascinating world. It has all the pulsation of life in these pages.

### STRENGTH AND WEAKNESS

Ever since Mr. F. L. Green wrote his first novel, *On the Night of the Fire*, I have regarded him as a novelist of importance whose books discerning readers should know. The novels that succeeded the first have had their ups and downs, but on the whole they have marked a steady development of this author's grasp upon his job, and *Odd Man Out*, the one before that which I am now reviewing, reached Mr. Green's highest point yet. It was a better novel than this new one, *A Flask for the Journey* (Michael Joseph 10s. 6d.). But the new one is far and away above the ordinary run of novels, and it affords a good example both of Mr. Green's strength and his weakness.

There is one characteristic that runs undeviatingly through all Mr. Green's work, and tends indeed to become more pronounced as he goes on. That is what I have already called the hallucinatory feeling of his characters. Tennyson wrote the line, "Shadows huger than the shapes that cast them," and the chief people in Mr. Green's novels always have this sense of being magnified out of human proportion by the events in which they are involved. These events tend to have a sort of smoky violence: a disastrous fire, a rebellion, a war. I am never able to regard the characters as strictly human beings, and that is the weakness I find in the books; but they have a profoundly moving appeal as fabulous creatures, created for the express purpose of hugely illustrating this or that human dilemma; and Mr. Green's firm grasp of them, within the limits of that intention, makes us accept them while we are considering their adventures; and that is his strength.

### PARABLES IN NOVELS

In this present book, when the narrator has finished telling his story to an audience of one, Jane makes the simple comment: "It was a good story. Quite a parable!" And that, in fact is what each one of Mr. Green's novels amounts to. There are two main lines of approach for a novelist to his characters. He may begin with them as breathing beings whom he has conceived and who, as the book develops, find themselves engaged in the tangle of circumstances which they, being themselves, must necessarily encounter. Or he can begin with a pure abstraction, a moral or philosophical notion, which he wishes to illustrate, and then he chooses his characters not because they have themselves fascinated him, but because they are the sort of people who will be useful to illustrate his thesis.

This latter method, which I feel is Mr. Green's, can result in a desperately dull book, and I can pay this novelist no higher tribute than to say that he has never written a dull page. He is triumphant over the disability of his own method.

### "WHAT IS FREEDOM?"

The philosophical question which he seeks to illustrate in the present book is the ancient one: What is freedom? He gives us a young man captured by the Germans early in the recent war, and full of "escaping" notions. He must have "freedom" at all costs. But is this prison—is any prison—a denial of freedom? We were reminded long enough ago that

*Stone walls do not a prison make*
*Nor iron bars a cage;*
*Minds innocent and quiet take*
*That for an hermitage.*

and, in effect, the book amounts to nothing but a modern illustration of this ancient wisdom. With this important addendum. Though this prisoner found that in solitary confinement he achieved something of the freedom, the ecstatic wisdom and release of the mystics, there is the further question of the responsibility of the individual to society. And how shall he discharge this if he spend all his time within the agreeable stone walls of "non-attachment"?

The problem is left unresolved, but in examining it Mr. Green has given us a book unusually filled with those moving, cloudy and enigmatic people who, if hardly of this earth, are magnificent adumbrations, outsize spectres that remain to haunt a reader's imagination long after the puny creatures of most novelists have crumbled and decayed.

## SHAKESPEARE'S COUNTRY

THE Victoria County History has received a welcome addition to its series of volumes with the publication of the first of the topographical *volumes on Warwickshire* (Vol. 3, Oxford University Press, £2 2s.), the appearance of which was delayed by the war. It surveys the single hundred of Barlichway, but no region of comparable size throughout England is richer in the stuff of which history is made. For Barlichway contains Stratford and the lovely pastoral country of the middle Avon in which Shakespeare was born and bred; among its villages are the softly sounding names of Bidford and Billesley. Temple Grafton and Hampton Lucy; and the little towns of Alcester and Henley-in-Arden are here as companions-in-peace with Stratford. The finest of the houses surveyed in this volume is Coughton Court, still the Throckmortons' home as it was in the days of Gunpowder Plot and now safeguarded as a property of the National Trust. Abbots Salford Hall, Castle Cottages at Studley and Billesley Hall are three among many old manor houses, most of which to-day survive as picturesque farmhouses of stone, brick or timber. Of later mansions Ragley Hall, designed by Wren's contemporary, Hook, is the most notable, but Wroxall Priory, which Wren himself bought ten years before his death, was pulled down and rebuilt 80 years ago and now only some gate posts and garden walls remain of the house which he knew.


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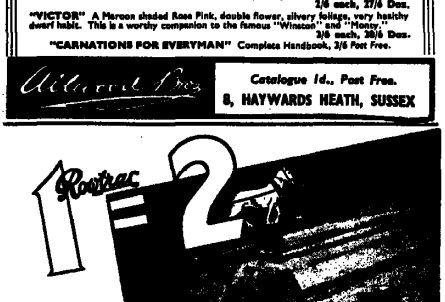


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FARMING NOTES

# FARM BUILDINGS FOR TO-DAY

SCOTLAND has some good farmers and many of them are forward-looking men. Their ideas about the farm buildings needed to-day for economical food production deserve study on both sides of the Border. *Farm Buildings in Scotland* is the title of a Scottish committee's report which may be purchased from H.M. Stationery Office, price 1s. 6d. What I like particularly about this committee's recommendations is that they are thoroughly practical and based on the assumption that the future will bring a greater variety of enterprises on the traditional size of farm rather than specialisation on larger units. In England, too, many people have assumed that developments in mechanisation and labour-saving devices necessarily involve throwing together adjoining farms to make what are called economic units of perhaps 1,000 or 2,000 acres in size. Glancing through this report I looked particularly for the Committee's recommendations about cow-sheds and the relative advantages of the covered yard and milking-parlour system. In Scotland they call the yard a court and I prefer the term. It has a cleaner air about it. The Committee say that in districts where straw is plentiful farmers increasingly favour the housing of dairy herds in courts. The animals have more room and they keep cleaner: the labour of cleaning and bedding is much reduced. The manurial value of both dung and urine is conserved in the best possible manner, so the Committee recommend the system for dairies in all areas where straw is available in ample quantities. Many old steadings can readily be converted into courts and accommodation for the milking parlour.

### *100 sq. ft. per Cow*

OBJECTIONS to the cow court system are commonly voiced, such as that the cows will bully each other, and in particular newcomers, and that the system will lead to victimisation at feeding-time. These objections have in practice been overcome by de-horning and by the provision of suitable feeding troughs fitted with some form of yoke so that each animal can get its fair share of food. 100 sq. feet per animal is considered sufficient court-room when twenty cows are penned together. Where less than 10 cows are penned in one court, the allocation of floor space should be increased to 125 sq. ft. per head. Courts for dairy cows should generally be completely roofed over, although in some parts of the country where the rainfall is light, it may suffice to have only part of the court covered. In my opinion it is better to spend a little more in roofing to make sure that the cows lie comfortably.

### *Threshing Costs*

FARM economists at Cambridge have been comparing the work of British and American threshing machines. The American machines of the peg drum type show two distinct advantages over British makes of traditional type. They need a smaller working gang and the cost of threshing is lower. With British machines, threshing costs worked out at 4s. 11d. a quarter for wheat and with American machines at only 2s. 9d. The American peg drum threshers are also much handier to move about the farm, which is an important consideration in winter when threshing has to be done in outlying fields. I can confirm from my own experience that five men make an ample team for working one of these machines and that the job can be done by three men. It is generally reckoned that the British machine needs ten men. The disadvantage about the American peg drum thresher is that straw and chaff are usually blown into a single heap. In the United States and Canada the usual practice is still to burn the straw, but if the straw is to be used, the farmer does not want a large shapeless heap into which rain penetrates easily. On my farm we have been able to make a reasonably compact heap of pyramid shape which can be used without too much waste. But being fitted with pegs, the American drum breaks up the straw into short lengths of anything up to six inches or so. This is not easy material to handle with a fork, and by far the best job is made if the ricks are situated close to a yard into which the straw can be blown for litter straight from the thresher. This broken straw is not, of course, any use for thatching. Nor have I been able to make satisfactory straw bales from it. However, the labour involved is so much reduced that one can afford to accept some disadvantages.

### *Potato Spraying*

THIS season's main potato crop made a slow start and it needs all the sunshine that Providence can give if main crops are to reach an average of 6–7 tons to the acre. If we get warm, moist weather that favours the spread of blight, growers in the south and south-west of England and in Wales should be quick off the mark with their spraying. Spraying or dusting with copper powders should also be routine work in South Lincolnshire and other coastal districts where blight occurs nearly every year. Farther inland and in the North, blight appears later and is less severe. Spraying or dusting may not be worth while there if the crop has been earthed up properly and if, as many farmers find it convenient to do, the tops are to be killed off finally by sulphuric acid spraying before the potatoes are lifted. The most susceptible varieties are King Edward, Up-to-date, and British Queen. Crops of these should be sprayed wherever they are grown.

### *Oats for Oatmeal*

IN the war years and since, there has been an expansion in oatmeal milling. Housewives who have not had the points to buy all the packet breakfast foods that their families would like have turned to oatmeal porridge. This is true of the South as well as the North. Which are the types of oats that provide the quality of grain that the millers like for making oatmeal? A friend in the trade tells me that the most suitable is the White Winter Oat, S.147. Picton also makes a good milling oat and of the spring varieties, Star and Victory are liked best by millers. Where the rainfall is high, the potato oat does best. Onward is not liked by the millers. These preferences are worth knowing, as a better price is fixed for milling oats. If the Government really want to get more oatmeal they should put the milling price of oats at a figure that will give the grower as good a return as he can get from barley. There are some fields which could grow a useful crop of winter oats, such as S.147, which are not really in good enough heart to grow a full crop of wheat. Winter oats come half-way in fertility requirements between wheat and rye.

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*THE ESTATE MARKET*

# EAGER BUYERS EVERYWHERE

WHETHER we look at London auctions, those in country centres, or the course of private negotiations, the conclusion is the same, that the pressure to buy real property is practically unprecedented.

In London, vacant sites, which were cleared by bombing, are selling readily enough, though exactly what deferment of the eventual income may be necessary is an insoluble problem, dependent on a radical change of the position as regards labour and materials. The tendency of tenants of country properties to seize the opportunity afforded by an auction to become their own landlords—notable among these being the recent results of Welsh auctions by Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley—has spread to the City of London itself. Consequent on the resolve of a great manufacturing combination to concentrate their London offices in the West End instead of retaining part of a great City block, Cannon Street premises came under the hammer of Messrs. Debenham, Tewson and Chinnocks, and Mr. W. Wallace Withers effected a sale for £175,000, as it has afterwards transpired, to a buyer representing certain of the tenants.

If the movement of the vendors to Bloomsbury seemed to be another manifestation of the "westward trend," the action of the firms who have succeeded them as owners of the fee simple is a welcome indication of the continuing determination of business men to remain in "the Square Mile."

### RESERVES FAR EXCEEDED

RESERVES at auction are being greatly exceeded in many instances, though the experience of one agent is probably exceptional, putting together a total of close upon £16,000 for property that he had been authorised to sell for just under £5,000. Private negotiation is entering on a new phase. Enquiries for details of offers are arriving from places far distant from the properties and apparently not from very promising quarters. But agents treat them with all seriousness, inasmuch as the sources of information open to well-organised agencies often enable a shrewd guess to be formed as to who are the real prompters of the enquiries.

### ROUNDABOUT APPROACHES BY BUYERS

THIS circuitous mode of approach seldom achieves much success. Most of the powerful purchasing interests make no secret of their being interested in some investment. They know how much they are ready to pay for a property, and are not without an idea of what the rival offers may amount to. If they cannot get the investment at their figure they are content to let it go. The small bidder at auction used to waste a lot of time by cautious advances, oblivious of the principle enunciated by some of the principal auctioneers: "Make a bold bid, sir, and frighten them off." On one memorable occasion this advice was taken by a well-known contractor who wanted a Whitehall freehold for his offices. He jumped the bidding, at one bound, from £40,000 to £60,000, and became the owner.

### AN OXFORD COLLEGE FARM SOLD

CHRIST CHURCH COLLEGE, Oxford, has sold Grange Farm, Saunderton, near Princes Risborough, in lots, for £9,230, with possession, the house, two cottages and 146 acres, making £7,000. Messrs. James Styles and Whitlock were the agents.

Crawford's Hotel and Café, on Southbourne Overcliff Drive, at West Southbourne, Bournemouth, a modern freehold, has been sold with the stored furniture, and vacant possession, by Messrs. Fox and Sons, for £27,000.

Grove Lodge, Winkfield, has been let to the King of Iraq, by Messrs. Giddys, who report a large number of sales of riverside and other residential freeholds, some of them of 5 or 6 acres or over.

### THE MACKINTOSH MOORS

JOINTLY, Messrs. John D. Wood and Messrs. Jackson Stops and Staff are shortly to sell by auction many thousands of acres of Inverness-shire grouse moors and other sporting properties which have for centuries belonged to the Mackintosh of Mackintosh and his ancestors.

Sales before auction are a feature of a long list of first-rate residential freeholds just disposed of by Mr. Frank D. James (Harrods Estate Office). Since the auction they have sold all Broomsleigh, a Sevenoaks estate of 500 acres.

### DISCLOSURE OF PRIVATE TREATY PRICES

A PROPOSAL has recently been discussed by the members of the Auctioneers' and Estate Agents' Institute that the desirability of compiling a register of any private treaty transactions by members be considered. It was suggested that the information should be treated as confidential between the members and that "it would put the ordinary member on a footing of equality with the District Valuer of the Inland Revenue." Opponents of the proposal urged that it was unnecessary, as members were generally willing to help one another by stating what had been done in particular cases. It was also pointed out that, as a rule, information about transactions of a private nature was needed only in the particular locality of the property; that there was no power to compel such information to be given, and that there might be serious objections to the giving of information because, though it might be confidential, it "might come to the notice of some agent representing opposing interests." Other objectors argued that permission to disclose private transactions must be subject to leave being first asked and obtained from the clients. Special circumstances, it was urged, might influence the terms agreed on between parties to private transactions, making the actual results of no real use to those to whom sales were disclosed. In the end the members decided not to entertain the proposal.

### EXHAUSTIVE RECORDS NOT EXISTENT

IT may not be inappropriate to mention that there is no organisation in being that can claim to make an exhaustive record even of public auctions. London sales under the hammer are not by any means all [illegible], for many are held on the premises, for example, those of houses preceding the auction of the contents," and some that take place in the purely proprietary sale-rooms. To ascertain results of auctions in country sale-rooms would be a formidable task, and in nine cases out of ten the information would never be needed for any purpose. The only fairly complete records of transactions are those officially compiled by the District Valuers of the Inland Revenue. Of course, for anyone able and willing to wait until registration of title has been effected there is the Land Registry information for those who care to pay the fee (charged for each individual hereditament) for a search. ARBITER.


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*(Left)* Grecian sun-suit from Paris in pastel chiffon worn over crêpe trunks. Grès

*(Below)* White linen beach coat and sun-suit striped in linen braid, red, blue, green, yellow. Selita

Photograph: ANTHONY BUCKLEY

# SEA AND SUN

BEACH clothes are picturesque this summer, as much unlike a uniform as possible. This is not to say that tailored slacks and shorts are not still fashionable. They are, but they no longer hang in serried ranks in the holiday wardrobe to the exclusion of all else and they are in gay colours so that they look more feminine. Newer than slacks are the mid-calf shorts with turn-ups. Colours for the beach frocks, coats and sun-suits are in the sentimental pinks, blues and mauve of a Valentine. There is also a lot of chalk-white, and for the half-way slacks for boating, and swim-suits intended for real swimmers, a lot of sail-red and butcher blue. Paris is featuring glamorous sun-suits that show the Grecian influence in their gauzy tunics and gauged tops.

Beach outfits in pale blue, mauve or candy-pink linen, and in rayon with the texture of linen, are shown as knee-length coats buttoning down the front over shorts attached to backless apron tops, or two pieces of bloomers or shorts with brassière. Beach frocks in flowery or multi-coloured candy-striped cottons are four-piece—a wide gored skirt that buttons over bloomers with a top that is cap-sleeved, has a low décolletage and a brassière underneath. Brief white cotton duck shorts and white or coloured linen shorts come with short-sleeved shirts or striped, lisle jerseys matching the shorts, over brassières to wear sun-bathing when the jersey is discarded. Over them again go straight, hip-length hand-knit jackets in thick wool, or in thick taut jersey patterned like a Fair Isle, white with scarlet and green, sky blue with the design in pink. Wool jersey dresses with gathered peasant skirts and gaily embroidered tops are distinctly good for the chilly English climate, worn over two-piece swim-suits in jersey. Wool jersey beach frocks, knee-length, have immense flowers in white broderie Anglaise set all round the hem.

The corsetières are making swim-suits from odd lengths of striped or flowered cotton, fitting them as carefully as their corselettes, reinforcing and lining the brassière tops. To wear with these, there are huge sun-hats with a hole in the crown and sandals with thick cork soles, the tops in linen braid, laced up the leg like a gillie shoe, or rope-soled with two linen straps crossed over the foot, with another for the back. Plastic sandals are fun: white, pink and blue, very dainty looking, light and comfortable, perfect for the pink and blue cotton frocks. They are made on flat soles with easy heels.

DOLCIS make white sandals with a low wedge in green, yellow or crimson, toeless with a buckled ankle-strap; white tie shoes have a low wedge vertically striped in scarlet, blue or light brown; three-tiered wedge beach sandals for two coupons have canvas strips for the uppers and are tied round the ankle with cord. Joyce shows a high wedge version of the "Mexi-Coolee" sandal which makes it a more "dressy" type of shoe. Their new pump in brown or blue has a sling heel with buckled ankle-strap and a cut-out toe. White sugar bags attached to gold-studded shoulder straps are made to match white beach sandals, also studded with gold.

The number of plastic bags for the beach makes one dizzy. Miss Foster of Ships has designed extremely gay drawstring kit-

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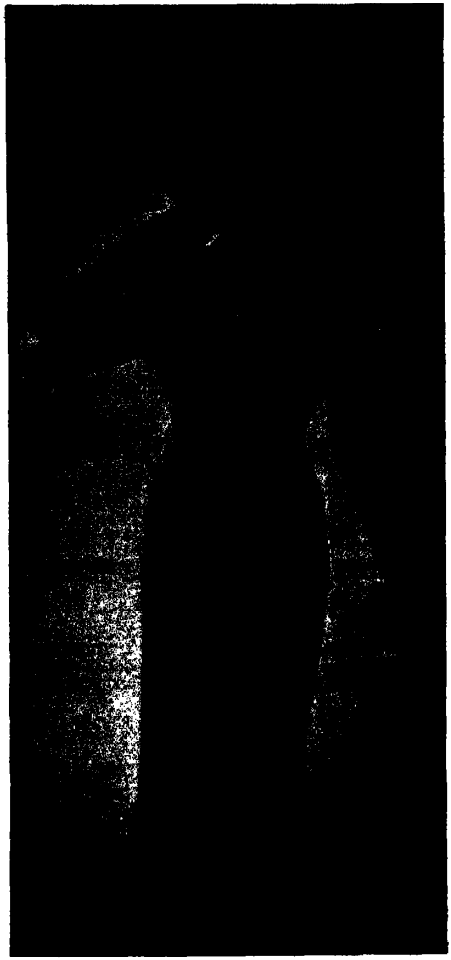


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*Oxford St. & Regent St. W.1.*

Plastic beach bag, pink and blue, that unwraps, becoming a cushion for the head and a rug to lie on and sun-bathe

(*Right*) Plastic bag for toilet accessories and a gathered cap. Beach accessories from Harvey Nichols

bags, and a wide corselette belt to match, in brilliant emerald green appliqué with fish and sea-flowers in red, yellow and light green. At the London Shoe Co. there are white scarlet-piped plastic portmanteaux, zipped at the top, with scarlet handles. In some stores there are multi-coloured striped canvas beach bags with a drawstring round the top. Picnic cases are back on the market again.

Sea and sun have a very bad effect on hair. It becomes sticky and unmanageable after bathing, and bleaching it in the sun makes it worse. Raymond recommends Mirosheen, an ultra-fine brilliantine, specially made to suit difficult hair, as a protection before bathing. Even if the back curls are piled on top of the head before putting on the bathing cap, salt water manages to penetrate with disastrous results. Rinsing with plain water after bathing is a great help.

Elizabeth Arden's "Sunpruf" cream is designed to protect the skin from excessive sunburn, and there are other preparations to cool and refresh on the hottest day. Their newest lipstick, Paradise Pink, a little darker than the springlike Rose Mist, is very becoming to wear with pastel colours, summer prints and flowery hats. There is also a matching powder and cream rouge.

Lillywhites have opened a new department for garden furniture and gadgets for the beach. Everything looks very gay and cheerful. There are deck-chairs, either wooden or metal-framed, in all colours of the rainbow, and a junior size for children. A novel picnic-basket has a sliding lid, with detachable straps, which tilts up to make a seat. Inflatable beds of balloon fabric come in red, green, blue, silver and gold and are ideal to use on hammocks made of brightly-coloured string.

For fun on the beach, there are huge beach balls in multi-coloured stripes, while red, green, and blue air-rings are available for the children. Spades and buckets are to be found at most seaside resorts. Specially made for the garden are natural cane verandah chairs with plastic seats and backs, wicker tables and trolleys in tubular steel with fibre trays. These, too, come in many colours—*blue-and-white, cream, red or* green with black.

P. JOYCE REYNOLDS.

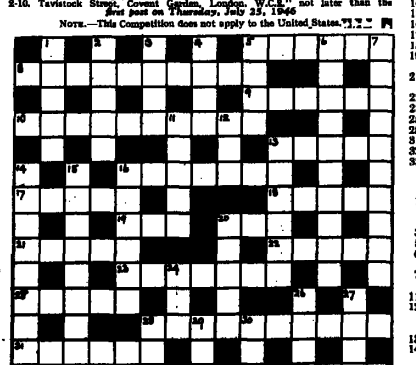
Three differently shaped sun-glasses from Dollond and Aitchison

SOLO means REAL ORANGE JUICE


# CROSSWORD No. 860

Two guineas will be awarded for the first correct solution opened. Solutions (in a closed envelope) must reach "Crossword No. 860, COUNTRY LIFE, 2-10, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2," not later than the *first post on Thursday, July 25, 1946*

NOTE.—This Competition does not apply to the United States.



*Name*.....
(*Mr., Mrs., etc.*)

*Address*.....

ACROSS

5. You sometimes find *y* hung up in it (6)
8. An eastern potentate is introduced into an American state (10)
9. Gold in the lump (8)
10. Bold leaper (anagr.) (10)
13. Result of a baking (5)
16. Tea : a cut (anagr.) (7)
17. They get down-trodden as they get older (5)
18. *One of the five* (5)
19 and 20. "——and evening star,
And one clear call for me!"—*Tennyson* (6)
21. Not how they lay sleepers : just the opposite (5)
22. Towel in barely fledged form (5)
23. Yard line but entirely feathered (7)
25. Picks (5).
28. They get into a whirl when they start (10)
31. Dawn of the new age (6)
32. These may come in useful for another job (10)
33. Sent on in verse form (6)

DOWN

1 and 2. The sustenance which they produce goes chiefly to Government departments nowadays (5, 5)
3 and 4. It is handy when you go in or out (4, 4)
5. A corrective to the wrongly inclined (4)
6. Alternative corrective to the wrongly inclined (5, 5)
7. They are associated with deaths, not births (10)
11. Historian in outer London (5)
12. "So might I, standing on this pleasant ——,
Have glimpses that would make me less forlorn"—*Wordsworth* (3)
13. Conifer (6)
14. To form them correctly use starch with care (10)
15. Sapper and tax-gatherer having political views (10)
16. Ship in disturbed seas (6)
20. Sticky stuff (5)
24. Make the repair without the material (3)
26. and 27. Do they provide the carpenter with smooth wood? (5, 5)
28. Forward, though starting in perturbation (4)
29. Awkward creatures (4)
30. In Kent you might expect to find them in Headcorn (4)

**SOLUTION TO No. 858.** *The winner of this Crossword, the clues of which appeared in the issue of July 12, will be announced next week.*

ACROSS.—1, Antechambers; 8, Abstain; 9, Longbow; 11, Knavery; 12, Sea-girt; 13, Users; 14, Carpenter; 16, Scarlatti; 19, Livia; 21, Domicil; 23, Vagrant; 24, Runners; 25, Stimuli; 26, Scant respect.

DOWN.—1, Assuage; 2, Traders; 3, Canny Scot; 4, Atlas; 5, Bandage; 6, Rebuilt; 7, Rank outsider; 10, Water wagtail; 15, Re-invests; 17, Almanac; 18, Lectern; 19, Log-line; 20, Viaduct; 22, Loser.

The winner of Crossword No. 858 is

Mrs. I. M. Baker,
56, Canon Street,
Winchester,
Hampshire.

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worn as frock · skirt · blouse · bolero suit

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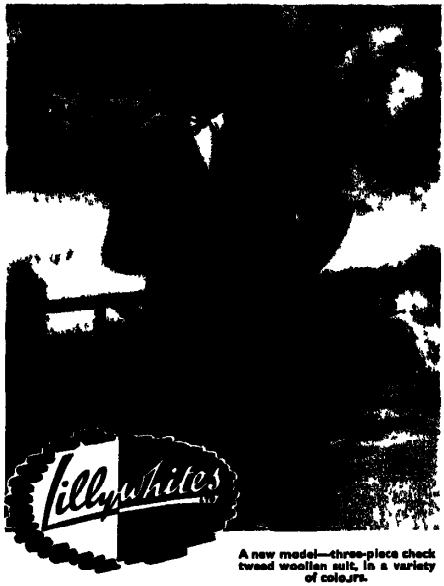


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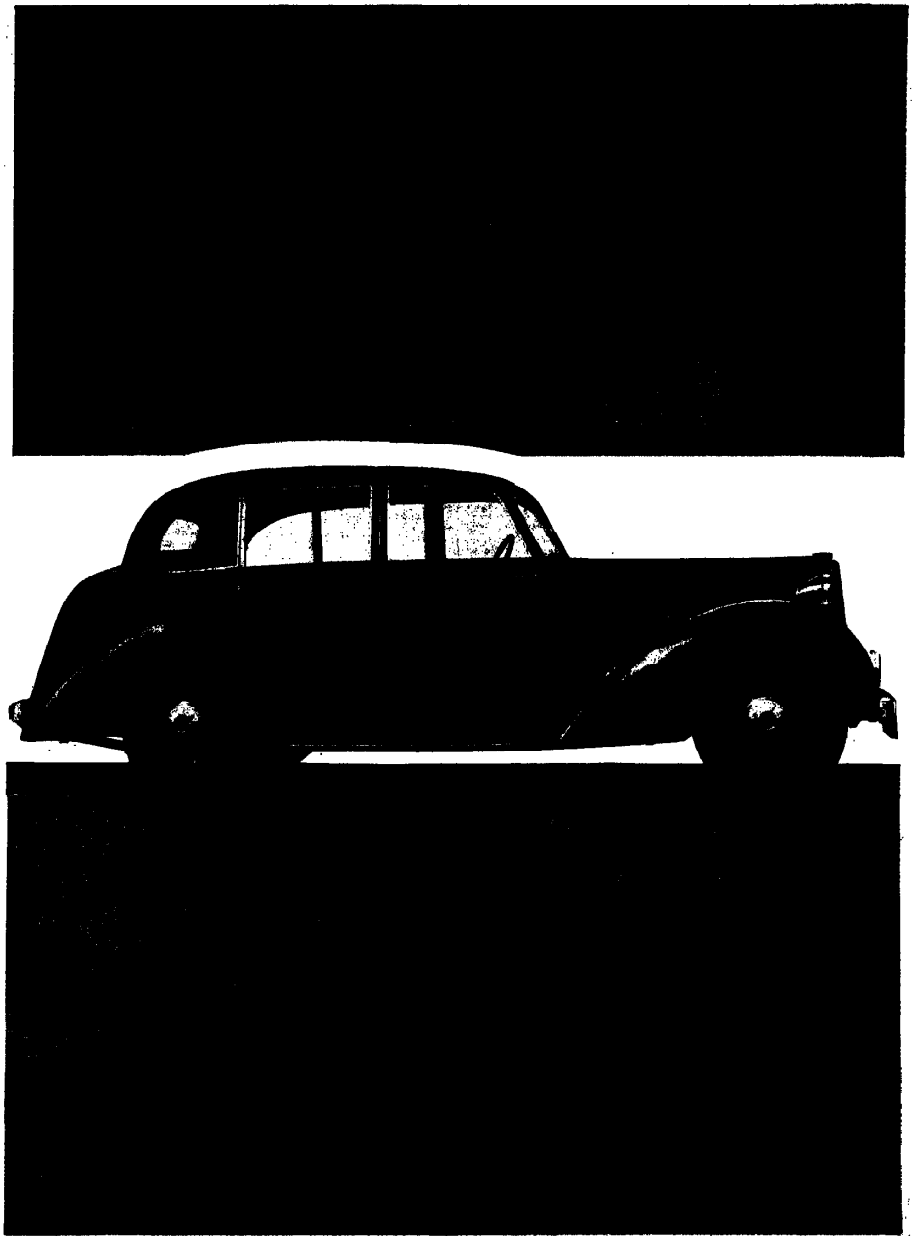

# COUNTRY LIFE

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WESTON-SUPER-MARE.
ROYAL PIER HOTEL

provides exquisite comfort. Immediately above the sea, facing south. Spacious and perfectly appointed. Vita-glass lounge and dining room. Centrally heated. Lift to all floors. Most bedrooms, double and single, have private bathrooms. Special h. and c. sea-water baths. Fully licensed with good wine cellar. Tel. 290.

## FOR SALE

ALVIS 17 h.p., 1938 model. French grey and chrome. Beautiful condition. Works overhaul (£320) May, 1946. Offers over £1,000.—E. A. BONE, 31, Patterdale Drive, Eccleston Hill, St. Helens, Lancs. Phone: Aintree 2973.

ANTIQUE sporting flintlock Rifle, by Emil Leopold August, dated July 7, 1817; blued steel hexagon barrel: 15 m.m. bore; rifled 8 lands; sights, scrolling, decorative name panel, foregrip and pistol grip, carved trigger guard strapping, stock and butt plates all in silver. No ramrod but otherwise complete. Offers.—Box 399.

CARAVANS. Purchase your new Caravan from Leicester Caravan Centre. Distributors for Eccles "Enterprise," Siddall "Sunset," and Coventry Steel "Phantom 46." Inspection invited or further details and photographs on request.—L.C.C., 489, Aylestone Road, Leicester. Tel. 32942.

## FOR SALE

A 13-FOOT Farlow Greenheart Salmon Rod, Reel, Line: hardly used. What offers?—Apply, 9-11 a.m., LAIRD, 9, Rosary Gardens, S.W.7. Tel.: Fre. 4686.

BEAUTIFUL Hand-woven Scotch and Island Tweeds, Patterns, receipt stamped envelope.—MRS. STOBART, White House, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

DIVAN BEDS for sale.—MISS C. WOLSELEY, 10, Alexandra Square, S.W.3. Phone: Kensington 8555.

ELECTRIC LIGHTING PLANT, 100 volts, comprising 54 cells, 260-ampere-hour batteries, new D.P. positive plates, 9-h.p. Pelapone engine, and Newton dynamo. The plant is in excellent condition and recommended with the utmost confidence.—Apply, JOHNSON, "Highfield," Great Driffield, E. Yorks.

FORDSON TRACTORS on pneumatics; suitable for golf course, sports ground, etc.—JAQUES, 35, Shipston Road, Stratford-on-Avon. Tel. 2774.

HIP-LENGTH BABY SEAL COAT, satin lined, as new, 50 gns., no coupons.—LINTON, 59, Lakenheath Southgate, N.14. Phone: Pal. 2786.

MAHOGANY SECRETAIRE, inlaid marquetry front, 3 ft. 3 in. wide, 5 drawers with original handles. Price £85. Also pair of Tapestry Curtains, 7 ft. high and each 8 ft. wide, rose and old gold. Pre-war cost £90, best offer over £35. Carved Oak Sideboard, 7 ft. wide, 3 drawers, 2 cupboards. Price £30.—JESSUP, The Adelphi Guild, Russell House, 9, Adam Street, W.C.2. Temple Bar 1074.

NO COUPONS. Two Towelling Bathing Wraps, W. size, offers. Navy suede Courts, 5½, pre-war, by Kendal's, worn once, 70/-. Light blue double-breasted Top Coat, darker over-check, also navy cloque short Dinner Frock, both S.W. and as new, £7 and £6 or offers. Dress length rust Lace, 50/-. Book Samplers and Stitches (Christie), as new, £2.—ALLDEN, Reston, Berwickshire.

ONE DOUBLE-BARRELLED GUN; hammerless automatic ejector; 12 bore; in case complete; makers, Belgian F.N.; condition as new; expert tested. Price £50 or near offer.—Box 401.

ONE PAIR black suede strap heel, toeless Court Shoes, American, size 7, price 4 gns. One pair Cordings Lady's Fishing Waders, thigh boots, size 5, price 10 gns. Two pairs Curtains, blue and fawn, heavy linen and turquoise spot heavy satin finish, lined, shaped pelmets, prices on application.—Box 408.

SHETLAND KNITTER offers for sale Jumpers, Cardigans, etc., plain, Fair Isle trimmed, all over Fair Isle, and Pace stitch, also all kinds of Children's Wear, Berets and Juliet Caps. Berets and Juliet Caps coupon free.—Apply, Box 385.

SOME 3-pronged forks and other early table silver; also salt cellars, pepper casters, etc., of fine quality and at reasonable prices. Approval.—LT.-COL. STEWART, Wingham Place, Rochester.

TALL MAN'S new Fishing Apron, best quality. 90, 37, 44. What offers? Approval.—CASE, Hazelbury, Bryan, Dorset.

THREE STATIONARY FIRE PUMP UNITS comprising: Mather & Platt 5 in./6 in. Medivane Pumps, 600 g.p.m. capacity, 230 foot head at 2,700 r.p.m. coupled to Mark III Ford Lincoln Petrol Engines complete with dynamos, silencers, cooling water tanks, fuel tanks, and mounted on fabricated steel bed plates. Purchased 1941, A.R.P. New condition. Offers.—Box R.113, LEE AND NIGHTINGALE, Liverpool.

## SITUATIONS WANTED

EX-OFFICER, married, desires outdoor life. Sound knowledge of I.C. engines and maintenance thereof, carpentery, cement work, drive car, keen on farm work, dogs and all animals. Urgent.—Box 409.

EX-WREN (29), well educated, good appearance, experienced driver, typing, adaptable, seeks post in country or country town; interested hotel reception.—Box 394.

EX-WREN (25), keen gardener, is anxious to learn Market Gardening and would like to contact anyone who is starting a similar business and would be willing to train her to a reliable position.—Write, Box 395.

HOUSEKEEPER (lady 41) would efficiently run country house or small hotel. Competent housekeeper and hostess, pleasant personality, cultured and widely travelled.—Box 397.

QUALIFIED Land Agent, 38, married, desires change. Fully experienced all branches estate management. Agency or Assistant Agency southern England. House essential.—Apply, Box 296.

YOUNG MAN, demobbed Major, staff, 32, alert, is looking for a position as buyer in the antique business. Was Interior Decorator and buyer London pre-war, but premises destroyed. Experienced particularly Georgian, Regency, Sheraton, English Oak, and Continental, etc. Also china, pictures and textiles. Familiar with sources of supply. Would travel if necessary, and speaks French, some Spanish. Used to preparing scheme down to last button, to reconstruction (when this becomes possible), to attending sales, and to coping with distracted staff. Considerable taste, much imagination, and absorbed in such work. First-class trade only, please, preferably London based. Reasonable salary and commission. Immediate. References.—Box 280.

## SITUATIONS VACANT

COOK-HOUSEKEEPER and HOUSEMAID required by MRS. HARRISON, Manor House, Tittensor, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs.

GARDEN-PLANNING and Lay-out. Would someone supply and undertake labour in small garden near Ashford this autumn. Good lodging in neighbourhood.—Box No. M40, Smith's Library, Guildford.

## "COUNTRY LIFE" COPIES

**For Sale**

COMPLETE SET of numbers from January, 1943, to December, 1944, except February 3, 1944. What offers?—Box 407.

THIRTY-THREE COPIES May 12 to Dec. 29, 1944, and year 1945 complete. Offers.—H. OWEN, 15, Liverpool Road, Birkdale, Lancs.

OTHER PROPERTY AND AUCTIONS ADVERTISING PAGE 180

COUNTRY LIFE

Vol. C No. 2584 JULY 26, 1946

CHECKED

# KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY

*IMMEDIATE POSSESSION.*

## NEWMARKET THREE MILES

**Half a mile from the gallops and a station**

**The ELIZABETHAN-STYLE RESIDENCE is erected of some of the finest materials, including a wealth of oak.**

It is in first-class order and approached by two drives each with lodge. Lounge hall, 4 reception rooms, master and mistress's bedrooms with boudoir and bathroom *en suite*, 5 other principal and 2 bachelor rooms, 4 other bathrooms, 8 servants' bedrooms.

**The residence contains some fine oak panelling and parquet floors.**

**Company's Electric light and water. Central heating, telephone, separate hot-water system.**

**Excellent stabling for 10. Garage for 5 cars, with 5-roomed flat over.**

THE GARDENS are inexpensive to maintain and consist of stone terrace, sunken garden, yew walk, grass tennis courts, walled kitchen garden, parklike grassland, gardener's cottage.

**FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT 120 ACRES**

Further particulars from the Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, 20, Hanover Square, W.1. (37,658)

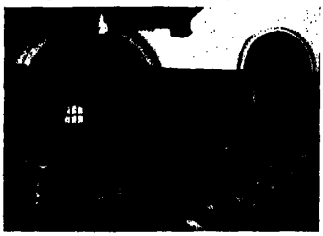
## WORCESTER THREE MILES

**Adjoining a village with buses, church and post office.**

**Standing on an eminence above the River Severn facing south and commanding very good views of the valley.**

**Occupying an extremely fine situation, the stone-built Residence, which was erected in 1914 by a well-known architect, is in good order both internally and externally.**

The approach is by two drives and the well-arranged accommodation is as follows: Panelled halls, 4 reception rooms, 12 bed and dressing rooms, plus flat above with 4 rooms and 3 store rooms, 3 bathrooms, excellent offices with "Aga" in kitchen. First-class controlled central heating system, main electric light, water and drainage.



**Stabling for 8, garages for 6-8, with 3 rooms over.**

**Gardens of natural beauty. Tennis and croquet lawns. Pool with dell. Wide flagged terrace. Woodland walk. Well-stocked kitchen garden. Greenhouse 60 x 20. Rich pasture land. Three small houses (two in hand).**

**FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH 18 OR 70 ACRES. POSSESSION ON COMPLETION**

Further particulars from the Sole Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, 20, Hanover Square, W.1. (19,537)

## KENT. CLOSE TO SUSSEX AND SURREY BORDERS

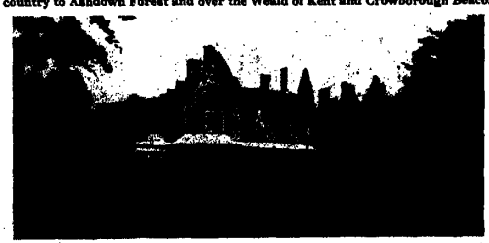
**Main Line Station 2½ miles. Bus service passes gates.**

**Occupying a fine position about 400 ft. above sea level on sandy soil, facing due south and commanding extensive views over undulating country to Ashdown Forest and over the Weald of Kent and Crowborough Beacon.**

**The Residence is built of Kentish ragstone with Bath stone dressings, mullioned windows and tiled roof.**

It is approached by a drive with a lodge (5 rooms) at entrance. Galleried entrance hall, 4 reception rooms, billiards room, 18 bed and dressing, 4 bathrooms.

**Central heating. Company's electric light, power and water. Separate hot-water supply. Telephone. Modern drainage.**



**Garage for 6, with rooms over. Stabling, lodge, 4 cottages.**

The gardens are well timbered and include undulating lawn adorned by many choice flowering trees, croquet lawn, rose garden, water garden, hard tennis court, extensive kitchen garden, orchard, the whole sloping gently southward to an ornamental lake with boathouse. Range of glass. Parkland.

**HOME FARM.**

of excellent pasture, with good buildings.

**About 96 ACRES. FOR SALE FREEHOLD or the house would be sold with less land.**

Further particulars of the Sole Agents: Messrs. BRACKETT & SONS, 27 and 29, High Street, Tunbridge Wells; or Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, 20, Hanover Square, W.1. (12,360)

# JACKSON STOPS & STAFF

8, HANOVER ST., LONDON, W.1. MAYFAIR 3316/7

CASTLE ST., CIRENCESTER (Tel. : 334) AND AT NORTHAMPTON, LEEDS, YEOVIL AND CHICHESTER

**SUITABLE PRIVATE RESIDENCE OR CLUB HOTEL**

## WEST SCOTLAND

*In the most glorious scenery in South Scotland beside Loch Long and near Loch Lomond, and within easy reach of good shopping centres.*

Four reception rooms. Music room equipped with organ, 16 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, excellent domestic offices with Aga cooker.

CENTRAL HEATING. ELECTRIC LIGHT BY DIESEL (grid available). TOWN WATER. Lift.

**7 ACRES GROUNDS.**

**BOATHOUSE.**

**PRICE £5,500**

**JACKSON STOPS & STAFF, Bridge Street, Northampton. Tel.: 2515/6.**

## NORTHANTS

### CHARMING GEORGIAN HOUSE

*550 feet up, magnificent views.*

Four reception rooms, 14 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms.

CO.'S ELECTRIC LIGHT.

CENTRAL HEATING.

Lodge. Park.

**50 ACRES, FOR SALE.**

**Agents: Messrs. JACKSON STOPS & STAFF, Northampton.** (8658)

*By direction of John P. Papillon, Esq.*

## SUSSEX—Between Battle and Bexhill



The well-situate and attractive residential estate of

**CATSFIELD PLACE**

consisting of the historic small early XVII-century residence. Lounge hall, 3 reception rooms, cloakroom, loggia. Seven principal bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 4 attic bedrooms, main electric light and water. Central heating. Outbuildings and stabling. Two modern cottages. Lovely garden. Pastureland.

**In all about 24 ACRES**

**CATSFIELD PLACE FARM**

with modern farmhouse containing two reception rooms, office, 5 bedrooms, bathroom, main electric light and water. Central heating. Good farmbuildings. Two cottages and about **260 ACRES**

will be offered for Sale by Auction (unless previously sold privately) as a whole or in two lots, at the Devonshire Hotel, Bexhill-on-Sea, on Thursday, August 22, 1946, at 2.30 p.m. Illustrated particulars, plans and conditions of sale (price 1/-) from the **Auctioneers: JACKSON STOPS & STAFF, 8, Hanover Street, London, W.1 (Tel.: Mayfair 3316/7) and at Northampton, Leeds, Cirencester, Yeovil and Chichester. Solicitors: RAPER & FOVARGUE, Battle (Tel.: 460/461) and at Eastbourne and Hailsham.**

*By direction of Executors.*

## WILTSHIRE DOWNS

*G.W.R. main line station 2 miles, 7 miles Devizes, 17 miles Marlborough, 19 miles Salisbury.*

**17TH-CENTURY MANOR HOUSE WITH 5 TO 74 ACRES KNOWN AS EASTERTON MANOR**

Three reception rooms, bathroom, 6 bedrooms, 8 cottages, farm buildings, accommodation land, pasture and arable and woodland.

**For Sale by Auction in 11 Lots at the Castle Hotel, Devizes, on Thursday, August 22, 1946, at 3 p.m. (unless sold privately meanwhile).**

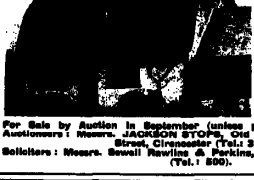
**Solicitors: Messrs. Douglas Grant & Reid, 321-323, Bank Chambers, Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.2.**

**Joint Auctioneers: Messrs. FERRIS & CULVERWELL, 4, Market Place, Devizes (Tel.: 37), and Messrs. JACKSON STOPS, Old Council Chambers, Castle Street, Cirencester. Tel.: 334/5.**

*By direction of F. H. Hope-Simpson, Esq.*

## "GREYSTONES," CRICKLADE, WILTSHIRE

**PICTURESQUE OLD-WORLD THATCHED COTTAGE RESIDENCE**



*Five minutes from bus, shops, etc., 7 miles from Cirencester.*

Four bedrooms, tiled bathroom, 2 reception rooms.

ALL MAIN SERVICES.

GARAGE. STABLING.

**2¼ ACRES**

**For Sale by Auction in September (unless previously sold privately). Auctioneers: Messrs. JACKSON STOPS, Old Council Chambers, Castle Street, Cirencester (Tel.: 334/5).**

**Solicitors: Messrs. Sewell Rawlins & Perkins, Dollar Street, Cirencester (Tel.: 500).**

*By direction of Major Foster.*

## NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

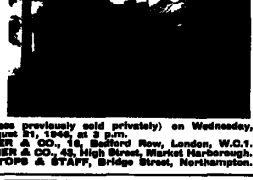
*Northampton 5½ miles. Market Harborough 13 miles.*

VACANT POSSESSION OF THE GRANGE

**The attractive Freehold Residential and Agricultural Estate SPRATTON GRANGE** occupying a fine position 300 ft. up with magnificent views.

Hall, 5 reception rooms, 23 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, complete domestic offices, billiard room. Co.'s electric light. Central heating. Stabling for 17. Garages for 9 cars. Cottage. Well-timbered grounds. Home farm.

**In all about 246 A. 2 R. 1 P.**



**For Sale by Auction (unless previously sold privately) on Wednesday, August 21, 1946, at 3 p.m.**

**Solicitors: Messrs. WINTER & CO., 10, Bedford Row, London, W.C.1. Land Agents: Messrs. FISHER & CO., 43, High Street, Market Harborough. Auctioneers: JACKSON STOPS & STAFF, Bridge Street, Northampton.**

Grosvenor 3121
(3 lines)

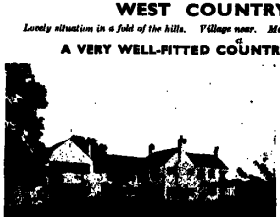
# WINKWORTH & CO.

**48, CURZON STREET, MAYFAIR, LONDON, W.1**

## WEST COUNTRY

*Lovely situation in a fold of the hills. Village near. Main line station 8 miles.*

**A VERY WELL-FITTED COUNTRY HOUSE**



of unconventional farmhouse character, yet modernised in every respect.

6 best bedrooms, nurseries, 5 bathrooms, staff rooms, hall and 3 reception rooms.

Main electricity

Central heating.

Garage.

**CHARMING GROUNDS WITH SUNK GARDEN, WATER GARDEN, SWIMMING POOL, ETC., ON ESTATE OF**

**40 ACRES TO BE LET FURNISHED**

Some staff available. WINKWORTH & Co., 48, Curzon Street, London, W.1.

## SOMERSET HILLS

*Facing south with beautiful views. Old-world town 1½ miles.*

**A WELL-MODERNISED OLD COUNTRY HOUSE**

on high ground approached by a drive, and in course of interior renovation now. 7 bedrooms, nurseries, 4 bathrooms, hall and 3 reception rooms. Main electricity, water and gas. Stabling.

Garage.

**COTTAGE. WELL-TIMBERED GARDENS AND GROUNDS, FAMOUS IN THE DISTRICT, ON AN**

**ESTATE OF 1,500 ACRES**

To be let on lease. Agents: WINKWORTH & Co., 48, Curzon Street, Mayfair, W.1.

# KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY

## SUSSEX—ON THE SURREY BORDERS

**31 miles from London and within easy reach of a station on the main Brighton line.**

**A MAGNIFICENT STRETCH OF WOODLAND**
**Part of the St. Leonard's forest area extending to**
**205 ACRES**
**and including a**
**Beautiful Chain of Three Lakes.**

The property is situated in unspoilt surroundings affording complete privacy and offering unique possibilities as the future site of a country residence.

Coarse fishing in the lakes.

**TO BE SOLD FREEHOLD**
**VACANT POSSESSION**

Sole Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, 20, Hanover Square, W.1.

## BUCKS—8 MILES FROM AYLESBURY

**In unspoilt country adjoining a small village.**

**A BEAUTIFUL QUEEN ANNE HOUSE**
**Restored and modernised and in excellent order throughout.**

Three reception rooms, 7 bed and dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms, ground floor domestic offices. Companies' electric light and water. Part central heating. Stabling and garage premises. Cottage can be rented. Delightful timbered gardens and grounds with lake, kitchen gardens and orchards.

**About 5 Acres. Ideally situated for the Whaddon Chase Hunt.**
**FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION**

Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, 20, Hanover Square, W.1. (42,455)

## WEALD OF KENT—50 Miles from London

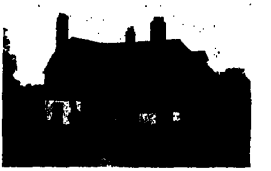
**Completely up-to-date residential and farming estate.**

**ELIZABETHAN HOUSE** with 3 reception, 5-6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Main electric light. Central heating. Billiards and games room. Garage for 4 cars. Four cottages. Two bungalows. Tennis court. Swimming pool.

**T.T. cowsheds for 60 cows**

Water bowls and improvement lighting. Dutch barn.

**18 acres hops, 71 pasture, 98 woodland, 45 arable.**



**T.T. Shorthorn Herd by Valuation if required.**
**ABOUT 230 ACRES FOR SALE FREEHOLD**

Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, 20, Hanover Square, W.1. (42,652)

Mayfair 3771 (16 lines) — **20, HANOVER SQUARE, LONDON, W.1** — Telegrams: "Galleries, Wesdo, London."

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# NICHOLAS

(Established 1882)

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## On the CHILTERN HILLS, Nr. HENLEY-ON-THAMES

*In a quite unrivalled setting facing south with panoramic views.*

**A LOVELY OLD-WORLD RESIDENCE**
(completely modernised)

Jacobean oak panelled lounge and 3 other reception rooms. Excellent domestic offices with maid's sitting room, 7 bed and dressing rooms (5 with basins), 2 bathrooms. A beautiful garden, also 3 paddocks (at present let) if required. Main water. Main electricity. Central heating. Garages and other useful outbuildings.

**TO BE LET UNFURNISHED, £400 PER ANNUM, OR TO BE SOLD £12,000**
Recommended by Messrs. NICHOLAS, Reading.

*For Sale by Executors.* *In the favourite Cotswold country.*

## BOURTON-ON-THE-WATER

*Near this beautiful old Cotswold village. Burford 10 miles, Cheltenham 16 miles, Gloucester 25 miles. Hunting with the Heythrop.*

**AN ELIZABETHAN STYLE RESIDENCE**

Substantially built of stone some 40 years ago and containing: Lounge hall, 4 reception rooms, 5 principal rooms, bathroom. In a wing: 8 secondary bedrooms and second bathroom.

Two good cottages. Garage for 3 cars. Stabling. Main electricity. Central heating.

Own water supply (main available if desired).

Lovely terraced grounds and meadowland, in all **50 ACRES**

**FREEHOLD FOR SALE £16,000**

(Vacant possession except of some of the land.)

Inspected by Messrs. NICHOLAS, Reading.

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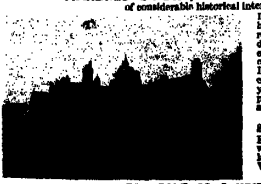
# LOFTS & WARNER

41, BERKELEY SQ., LONDON, W.1. Gro. 3056

*By direction of Major J. Smyth-Osbourne.*

## KENT
## HARDRES COURT, NEAR CANTERBURY

of considerable historical interest.



In a lovely position contains hall, lounge hall, billiards and 5 reception rooms, 20 bed and dressing rooms, 8 bathrooms, excellent offices, every modern convenience. Main electricity. Lovely gardens with tennis courts, walled gardens. Fine old yew hedges. Well-timbered park. Squash court. Stabling and garages with 2 flats, 4 service cottages.

**SECONDARY RESIDENCE**

Home Farm let to good tenant with 4 cottages. WITH woodlands in all about **600 ACRES.** Vacant possession of residence, garden and service cottages.

**FOR SALE AS A WHOLE**

Agents: LOFTS & WARNER, 41, Berkeley Square, London, W.1, and G. W. FINN AND SONS, 31, Watling Street, Canterbury.

*At very low reserve.*

## NORFOLK

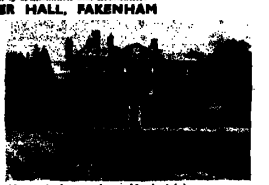
*Easy reach of Hunstanton and Brancaster.*

**CRANMER HALL, FAKENHAM**

Georgian Residence situated in a magnificent park approached by drive with lodge, contains hall, 20 bed and dressing rooms, 5 reception rooms, 7 bathrooms, central heating, main electricity. Stabling, garage. Cottage. Lovely gardens. 4 cottages. 2 small houses. With kitchens and **165 ACRES** of Fen the total area extends to nearly **400 ACRES.**

Shooting rights over **1,500 ACRES.**

For Sale by Auction as a whole or in Lots at The Globe Hotel, King's Lynn, at 3 p.m.



on Tuesday, August 13 next (unless previous sold privately).

Auction Particulars (2/6 each) from LOFTS & WARNER, 41, Berkeley Square, W.1. (Gro. 3056).

# HAMPTON & SONS

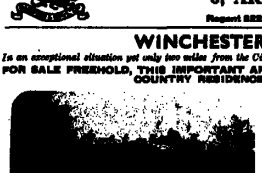
6, ARLINGTON STREET, ST. JAMES'S, S.W.1

Regent 8222 (15 lines) Telegrams: "Sanlatel, Piccy, London"

## WINCHESTER

*In an exceptional situation yet only two miles from the City with its famous College, etc.*

**FOR SALE FREEHOLD, THIS IMPORTANT AND FINELY APPOINTED COUNTRY RESIDENCE**



Drive approach. Lodge at entrance.

Hall, 3 good sized reception, billiards room, cloakroom, complete offices, servants' hall, 10 or more bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, central heating throughout. Company's electric light and power. Water. Three excellent cottages Garage and stabling block, etc.

Well-timbered gardens and grounds. Walled kitchen garden, 2 paddocks, in all about **17 ACRES**

THE WHOLE HAS BEEN WELL MAINTAINED AND IS IN FIRST-CLASS ORDER

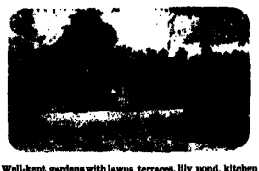
*Joint Agents: Messrs. GUDGEON & SONS, Winchester (Tel.: 3021) and HAMPTON AND SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. Regent 8222.* (H.5069)

## CHISLEHURST, KENT.

**FOR SALE FREEHOLD, A MODERN COUNTRY HOUSE**

*only 30 minutes from the City, almost adjoining the Common.*

Charming and secluded grounds of nearly **15 ACRES**



The House, which stands well back from the road, is in the Tudor style and fine wisteria and other creepers add to the old-world appearance. The accommodation on two floors only comprises: 12 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, fine oak staircase, secondary staircase, drawing room, dining room, oak panelled "big room" (a replica of a 15th-century hall), library, cloistered loggia, complete domestic offices. Double garage. Outbuildings.

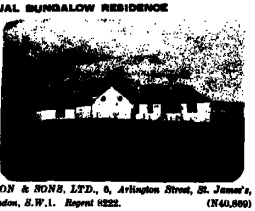
Well-kept gardens with lawns, terraces, lily pond, kitchen garden, etc., about **8 ACRES**, and woodlands with magnificent oaks, chestnuts, etc., about **8 ACRES**.

*Inspected and recommended by HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1 Regent 8222.*

## OUTER HEBRIDES ISLE OF BARRA

*Enjoying exceptional views of Skye and other islands.*

**AN UNUSUAL BUNGALOW RESIDENCE**



built for and previously occupied by well-known author. Containing 3 large sitting rooms, 5 bedrooms, bathroom, Garage and usual offices. Own electric light and water.

Grounds of about **AN ACRE.**

**PRICE £7,500**

Annual Feudalty £5/1/2

*Full particulars from HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, London, S.W.1. Regent 8222.* (N40,869)

## SURREY

*in lovely country*

**GUILDFORD—GODALMING**

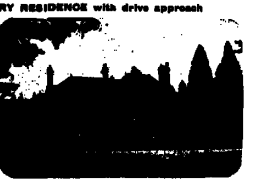
**Attractive COUNTRY RESIDENCE with drive approach**

Lodge, hall, double drawing room, 3 reception, 18 bedrooms, 3 bath, cloakroom, complete offices.

Central heating throughout. Companies' electric light and water.

Two cottages, garages, stabling, outbuildings.

Charming timbered grounds walled-in garden, parkland, in all about **18 ACRES.**



**FOR SALE FREEHOLD**

*Inspected and recommended by HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. Regent 8222.*

BRANCH OFFICES: WIMBLEDON COMMON, S.W.19 (WIM. 0801). BISHOP'S STORTFORD (243)

# JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK

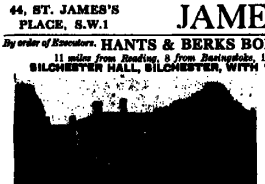
44, ST. JAMES'S PLACE, S.W.1

Regent 0011 (3 lines)

*By order of Executors.* **HANTS & BERKS BORDERS**

*11 miles from Reading, 9 from Basingstoke, 12 from Newbury.*

**SILCHESTER HALL, SILCHESTER, WITH 10¼ OR 116 ACRES**



Over 300 ft. above sea level, sunny aspects, panoramic views, near open common. LOT 1 (with vacant possession). Accommodation: Lounge hall, 4 reception rooms, 11 bedrooms, dressing room, 2 bathrooms. Ample offices including maids' sitting room. Main electricity. Partial central heating. Abundant water supply (main available), independent hot water. Stabling and garages with rooms over. Two cottages. Well-timbered gardens and grounds. **10¼ ACRES.**

LOT 2 (let). DICKERS FARM, extending to about **105½ ACRES** (24 acres woodlands in hand). For Sale by Auction as a whole or in 2 Lots at Reading, on Tuesday, September 24, 1946, at 3 p.m.

Illustrated particulars with plan may be had on application to the Solicitors: Messrs. RAYMOND-BARKER, NIX & CO., 9, New Square, Lincolns Inn, W.C.2; and the Auctioneers: Messrs. NICHOLAS, 1, Station Road, Reading, and 4, Albany Courtyard, Piccadilly, W.1; Messrs. JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, 44, St. James's Place, London, S.W.1.

### OVERLOOKING A SURREY GOLF COURSE

400 feet up, with delightful open views, yet only 12¾ miles from London. Soundly constructed and attractive House with short drive approach and sunny aspect. Hall, 3 reception and billiards rooms, 7 bedrooms, 1 dressing room, bathroom, adequate offices. All main services. Partial central heating. Garage. Delightful gardens of **2½ ACRES.** Price freehold **£8,500** (or offer).—Sole Agents: JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, 44, St. James's Place, S.W.1 (Telephone: Regent 0011).

### WIMBLEDON COMMON

One of the finest properties in this favourite locality. Remarkably secluded. Long low Modern House. Avenue drive approach. Two floors only. Lounge hall, 3 reception rooms, 12 bedrooms and 3 bathrooms. Main services. Central heating. Garages. Cottage. Gardens of great beauty of **4½ ACRES. FREEHOLD FOR SALE.**—Sole Agents: JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, 44, St. James's Place, S.W.1 (Telephone: Regent 0011).

### OXON. CHARMING INIGO JONES HOUSE

With 4 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, attics, 3 bathrooms. Electric light. Central heating. Garages, stabling. Two cottages. **9 ACRES.** *Lease at nominal rent, for sale at a reasonable figure.*—Full details from JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, 44, St. James's Place, S.W.1 (Telephone: Regent 0011).

# ALFRED PEARSON & SON

And at ALDERSHOT — FLEET, HANTS. Tel.: 118 — And at FARNBOROUGH

### XVth CENTURY COTTAGE WITH MODERN CONVENIENCES

**IN A CHARMING RURAL POSITION** 1½ miles main line station, 29 miles London. Carefully converted but retaining its old-world atmosphere and having electric light (own plant). Company's water and radiators throughout. Oak beams, floors, etc. 2 principal bedrooms, maid's bedroom, 2 bathrooms, excellent lounge (22 ft. 6 in. x 17 ft. 6 in.), annexe, cloakroom, kitchen with "Aga" cooker. Garage. **OVER 1 ACRE. FREEHOLD £7,000 WITH VACANT POSSESSION.**

### HANTS—SUSSEX BORDERS

**8 MILES FROM PORTSMOUTH** and 9 miles from Chichester, on outskirts of small country market town. Old-world residence completely modernised and standing in its own grounds of **8 ACRES.** 4 reception rooms, 10 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, modern domestic offices. Companies' water, gas, electric light and power. Main drainage. **£12,000 FREEHOLD.**

### FLEET

*(In the best residential part.)*

**ATTRACTIVE MODERN RESIDENCE** with all main services, basins in bedrooms and within 1½ miles of the main line station. 5 bed and dressing rooms, bathroom, good hall, cloakroom, 3 reception rooms, kitchen, etc. Detached garage. Very easily worked garden, a part of it being in its natural woodland state. **FREEHOLD £2,250** with early vacant possession including certain fixtures and fittings.

### TO BE LET UNFURNISHED

**SELF-CONTAINED MANSION FLAT** in a quiet and convenient position handy for main line station, shops, churches, etc., and having particularly light and lofty rooms. 3 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 reception rooms, entrance hall, kitchen, etc. Another room suitable for bedroom or studio. Redecorated and ready for immediate occupation at a rental of £250 per annum plus rates, but landlord providing central heating, domestic hot water and resident caretaker.

### WANTED

The Agents have a genuine inquiry for a small character residence, particularly in the Odiham-Alton area. 4-5 bedrooms with usual offices and only a very small garden. Reference CAPTAIN "L."

In consequence of the Agents having recently sold a country residence, having 6 bedrooms and standing in about 30 acres of grounds, a large number of applicants were disappointed and they are, therefore, anxious to find another property of this type in Sussex, Hampshire or Dorset. Immediate inspections can be made and the usual commission is required.

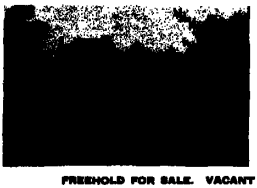
5, MOUNT ST., LONDON, W.1

# CURTIS & HENSON

Grosvenor 2121 (3 lines) *Established 1875*

## NEAR EPSOM DOWNS

*On high ground. Delightful open views.*



### MODERN GEORGIAN HOUSE

On two floors only. In exceptionally good order. Five bedrooms, bathroom, 3 reception rooms. All main services. Garage. Unusually lovely gardens. Swimming pools. Rock garden.

**ABOUT ONE ACRE.**

**FREEHOLD FOR SALE. VACANT POSSESSION.**

Personally inspected by CURTIS & HENSON, as above.

## TWO MILES FROM IPSWICH

*On high ground, well away from main roads.*

### BEAUTIFULLY APPOINTED HOUSE

In perfect order. Ten principal bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 5 reception rooms. Staff rooms, excellent domestic offices. Main electric light. Ample water supply. Central heating. Domestic hot water. Garages, stabling. Three cottages. Charming gardens and grounds.

**ABOUT 60 ACRES.**

Golf. Shooting. Hunting.

**FREEHOLD FOR SALE. VACANT POSSESSION.**

By private treaty now or by Auction later.

Land Agents: Messrs. SPURRIER & HEXPON, 20, Princes Street, Ipswich. Auctioneers: Messrs. CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W.1.

Regent 4304

# OSBORN & MERCER

*MEMBERS OF THE CHARTERED SURVEYORS' AND AUCTIONEERS' INSTITUTE*

52b, ALBEMARLE ST. PICCADILLY, W.1

## HERTS (ON A COMMON)

*In an excellent residential district, about a mile from the station and within convenient reach of London.*

### A WELL-BUILT MODERN HOUSE

well back from the road and approached by a drive; 3 reception rooms, 7 bed and dressing rooms, bathroom.

ALL MAIN SERVICES. CENTRAL HEATING.

Cottage. Two garages.

Well-matured gardens, 2 tennis lawns, vegetable garden, many fruit trees, etc. In all

**ABOUT 3½ ACRES. FOR SALE FREEHOLD.**

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (17,645)

## ASHTEAD, SURREY

*Occupying a choice position adjoining and overlooking the cricket ground, within easy reach of the station with its excellent train service to Town.*

### AN ATTRACTIVE UP-TO-DATE HOUSE

Lounge hall, 3 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, bathroom. All main services. Garage.

Matured, well-timbered grounds with tennis and other lawns, herbaceous borders, well-stocked kitchen gardens, etc., in all

**ABOUT 1½ ACRES**

**FOR SALE FREEHOLD. EARLY POSSESSION.**

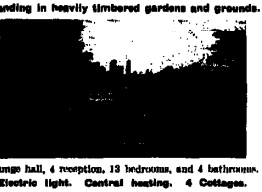
Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (17,686)

## BERKS, NEAR READING

*Occupying a remarkable position on gravel soil and commanding wonderful views over a wide expanse of beautiful country.*

### A MOST ATTRACTIVE BRICK-BUILT HOUSE

standing in heavily timbered gardens and grounds.



Lounge hall, 4 reception, 13 bedrooms, and 4 bathrooms.

**Electric light. Central heating. 4 Cottages.**

**Fine block of stabling.**

Tastefully disposed pleasure gardens. Hard Tennis Court, tennis and croquet lawns. Rose garden, shrubberies. Partly walled kitchen garden orchard etc., pasture and woodland. In all

**ABOUT 24 ACRES**

**For sale Freehold. Vacant possession.**

Inspected and recommended by Sole Agents: OSBORN AND MERCER, as above. (17,865)

## SURREY (under 25 miles from Town)

*Occupying a quiet position in the delightful Kingswood district within a few minutes' walk of the station.*

### AN ATTRACTIVE MODERN HOUSE

with 3 reception rooms, 7 bedrooms, bathroom.

**Companion' electric light, gas and water.**

Large garden, but this has been ploughed up during the war and will have to be entirely remade.

**PRICE FREEHOLD £5,750.**

**POSSESSION NEXT DECEMBER.**

Inspected by Sole Agents: Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER (17,710)

## Near MAIDENHEAD

*In a secluded position close to a village green and with south aspect.*

### AN ATTRACTIVE BRICK-BUILT HOUSE

**completely remodelled and modernised at considerable expense.**

Three reception rooms, 10 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms. *Main Electricity and Water. Central Heating.*

**Cottage, stabling, 2 garages.**

Well-disposed grounds including rose garden, orchard, kitchen garden, pasture, etc.

**The River Bourne runs through the grounds, which extend to ABOUT 8½ ACRES.**

**FREEHOLD £10,500 WITH VACANT POSSESSION.**

Inspected by Sole Agents: Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER. (17,709)

3, MOUNT ST., LONDON, W.1

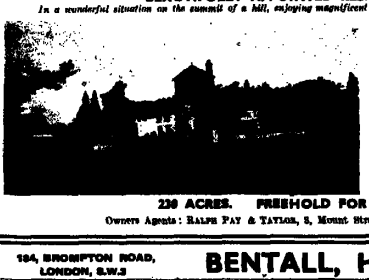
# RALPH PAY & TAYLOR

Grosvenor 1553-33

## MIDHURST—PETERSFIELD DISTRICT

### BEAUTIFULLY APPOINTED RESIDENCE

*In a wonderful situation on the summit of a hill, enjoying magnificent views to the sea and Isle of Wight*



Perfect seclusion. Two drives. In excellent condition and extremely well fitted.

Lounge hall, 3 reception rooms. Fine oak panelling. Polished oak flooring. 8 or 9 bed and dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms, compact offices.

Electric light, central heating throughout.

TWO COTTAGES. GARAGES.

Established and inexpensive gardens and grounds, woodland, in all about

**230 ACRES. FREEHOLD FOR SALE**

Owners Agents: RALPH PAY & TAYLOR, 3, Mount Street, London, W.1.

## SURREY—FINEST POSITION ON WENTWORTH

### A DELIGHTFUL HOME OF CHARM AND CHARACTER

10-12 bedrooms, 6 bathrooms, 4 reception rooms, labour-saving offices.

CENTRAL HEATING AND ALL MAIN SERVICES.

GARAGE. FOUR COTTAGES.

Delightfully laid out gardens and grounds with vistas, water garden, productive kitchen garden, in all about

**5 ACRES. FREEHOLD FOR SALE**

JUST OFFERED WITH VACANT POSSESSION.

Owners Agents: RALPH PAY & TAYLOR, 3, Mount Street, London, W.1.

184, BROMPTON ROAD, LONDON, S.W.3

# BENTALL, HORSLEY & BALDRY

Kensington 0123-3

## GENTLEMAN'S SUSSEX FARM

BY AUCTION DURING AUGUST

PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT

**EGYPT FARM, HIGHLAKE GREEN, NEAR HAILSHAM**

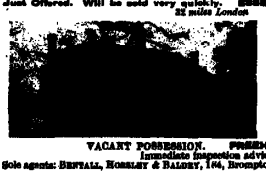
Nearly 100 ACRES mainly grass, with some orchanding; charming modernised Tudor House, very picturesque and in excellent condition, 3 rec., 5 bed, bath. Good buildings. Amidst lovely unspoiled country 12 miles Eastbourne. In conjunction with Messrs. Burtenshaw & Son, Auctioneers, Hailsham. Reasonable reserve and well worth inspection.

POSSESSION SEPTEMBER 29 NEXT

BENTALL, HORSLEY & BALDRY, 184, Brompton Road, S.W.3. (Tel.: Ken. 0123)

*Just Offered. Will be sold very quickly.* **ESSEX, NEAR HERTS. BORDER**

*22 miles London*



### Charming

Queen Anne Farmhouse. 3 reception, study, 6 bed, bath. Main water. On 3 electric light. Central heating.

Picturesque range of buildings. Very fine modern garage for 4 cars. 100 feet tomato and heated greenhouse. Inexpensive gardens. Paddock. Pasture and fertile arable. About

**15 ACRES**

VACANT POSSESSION. FREEHOLD £7,850

Immediate inspection advised.

Sole agents: BENTALL, HORSLEY & BALDRY, 184, Brompton Road, S.W.3. (Tel.: Ken. 0123)

## BEAUTIFUL BERKS.

It is difficult to obtain properties in Berkshire, and especially the smaller type of country residence, but we can offer just that characteristic PROPERTY so much in demand and situated in a most beautiful part. It enjoys a secluded position 300 feet up with south aspect, adjoining a Common, and commands lovely views. It contains 4 reception, 6 bedrooms, bath, and has main electric light, water by gravitation, and central heating, garage, stabling, charming garden with thousands of bulbs, bordered by a clear running brook, orchard, and meadows, in all 12 ACRES. PRICE FREEHOLD ONLY £8,750. GENUINE BARGAIN. Recommended.

BENTALL, HORSLEY & BALDRY, as above.

# GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS

(ESTABLISHED 1778)

Grosvenor 1553 (6 lines)

25, MOUNT ST., GROSVENOR SQ., W.1

Hobart Place, Eaton Sq., West Halkin St., Belgrave Sq., and 62, Victoria St., Westminster, S.W.1

**MAGNIFICENT VIEWS IN WILTS**

*600 feet up, overlooking Avon Vale. South aspect.*

**FINE STONE-BUILT TUDOR RESIDENCE**

with every modern luxury and labour-saving convenience. Twelve bed., 5 bath., 2 rec. rooms (one 46 ft. x 22 ft.), main services, modern drainage, central heating, fitted pedestal basins, oak floors, etc., etc., modern cottage, garages, etc. Another cottage available.

LOVELY GARDENS

fully kept up, hard tennis court, orchard and meadows

**5 ACRES. POSSESSION NOVEMBER, 1946.**

GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount-Street, London, W.1. (A3291)

**IN AN UNIQUE POSITION ON THE SUSSEX DOWNS**

*Close to a village with station and 4½ miles from Haywards Heath.*

This delightful old-fashioned Residence with modern conveniences, approached by a long drive and containing 4 reception rooms, 8 bathrooms and 10 bedrooms, excellent domestic offices with servants' sitting room.

Inexpensive gardens and grounds.

Well-arranged stable yard with stabling for 16, garages, useful buildings and 2 cottages.

High lying and rich pastureland in suitable enclosures with water laid on, in all about **40 ACRES. FOR SALE FREEHOLD** with early **POSSESSION BY ARRANGEMENT**

All further particulars of the Sole Agents, GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W.1. (D.2573)

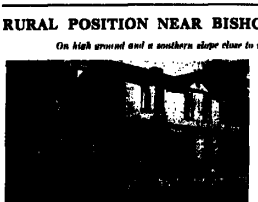
# F. L. MERCER & CO.

Regent 2481

SACKVILLE HOUSE, 40, PICCADILLY, W.1

**RURAL POSITION NEAR BISHOP'S STORTFORD**

*On high ground and a southern slope close to village with station.*



This comfortable old-fashioned Residence, simply planned and having unusually well proportioned rooms. Seven bed, 2 bath, 4 reception rooms. Main services. Electric light, gas, water. Stabling for 4 and garages. Pair of cottages (let). Terrace, well-timbered gardens, walled kitchen garden and paddocks, in all about

**12 ACRES**

**£11,500 or with 6 ACRES ONLY if desired.**

Recommended by Sole Agents: F. L. MERCER & CO., 40, Piccadilly, W.1. Regent 2481.

**SMALL SURREY ESTATE WITH GRAND VIEWS**

ADJACENT TO WALTON HEATH golf links and miles of open riding country. Architect-designed residence amidst perfect seclusion. 800 ft. up with extensive views to Chanctonbury Ring. 3 reception, billiard room, 12 best and dressing rooms, 4 bathrooms. Self-contained cottage with 4 rooms, bathroom and kitchen. Central heating. Main services. Spacious garage with flat over. Gardens and woodland, **10 ACRES. £25,000.** Vacant possession. A home of exceptional merit.—F. L. MERCER & CO., 40, Piccadilly, W.1.

**HERTS. NEAR ST. ALBANS**

SMALL COUNTRY HOUSE completely modernised. Spacious and lofty rooms. Rural setting. 3 reception, 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, maid's sitting room. Central heating and all main services. Wash basins in bedrooms. Double garage, loose box. Well-timbered gardens and grass orchard, **3½ ACRES. £8,500 FREEHOLD.** Open to offer. Possession.—Sole Agents: F. L. MERCER & CO., as above.

**WEST SUSSEX. MODERN HOUSE WITH MODEL FARM**

BEAUTIFULLY SITUATED with fine southern views of the Downs. 5 miles main line station. 5 bedrooms (basins), 2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, maid's room. Main electric light and power, central heating. Buildings well away from house. Finely laid out gardens, hard court, orchard, arable and pasture. **22 ACRES.** Further 23 acres rented. **£11,000,** including pedigree herd, look, stock, and barrel. Possession September.—F. L. MERCER & CO., 40, Piccadilly, W.1. Regent 2481.

# WOODCOCKS

16, ARCADE STREET, IPSWICH. Ipswich 4234

20, ST. GEORGE STREET, HANOVER SQUARE, W.1 Mayfair 3411

*High up with lovely rural views. Golf, hunting, fishing near.*

**HEREFORDSHIRE BORDER.** Outskirts Kington. **DELIGHTFUL BIJOU RESIDENCE,** 2 reception, 3 bedrooms, bathroom; excellent repair; main water. Charming garden and orchard, nearly **2 ACRES.** Garage, barn, etc. Possession. **FREEHOLD £3,000.** Inspected and recommended.

Sole Agents: WOODCOCKS, London Office.

**ESSEX** (Chelmsford 10 miles, Bishop's Stortford 16). **CHARMING OAK BEAMED TUDOR RESIDENCE,** beautifully appointed, 3 reception rooms (one 24 ft. x 20 ft.), 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, main water. Garage. Old-world garden. Orchard and meadowland. **3 ACRES** in all. **FREEHOLD £6,300.**

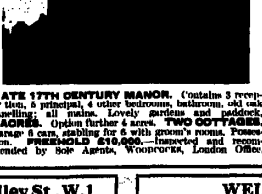
Inspected by WOODCOCK & SONS, Ipswich.

**FELIXSTOWE** (best part, fine sea views). **CHARMING AND WELL-BUILT RESIDENCE** in timbered grounds of 1½ **ACRES.** Three reception, maids' sitting room, 10 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Central heating throughout. All main services. Three excellent garages. **FREEHOLD £8,500.** Early possession.

Inspected by WOODCOCK & SON, Ipswich.

*In heart of Shakespeare Country enjoying lovely view.*

**WARWICKSHIRE**



**LATE 17TH CENTURY MANOR.** Contains 3 reception, 5 principal, 4 other bedrooms, bathroom, old oak panelling; all mains. Lovely gardens and paddock, **8 ACRES.** Option further 4 acres. **TWO COTTAGES.** Garage 6 cars, stabling for 6 with groom's rooms. Possession. **FREEHOLD £10,000.**—Inspected and recommended by Sole Agents, WOODCOCKS, London Office.

**HERTS.** 1½ miles King's Langley Station on Green Line bus route to London. **BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY RESIDENCE OF CHARACTER.** Lounge hall, 3 reception, 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, sun lounge. Recently redecorated. All mains. Charming old-world gardens, orchard, pasture, **3 ACRES.** Garage, stable, etc. Possession. **FREEHOLD £7,000.**—Inspected and recommended by Sole Agents, WOODCOCKS, London Office.

**UNDER 20 MILES PLYMOUTH.** Very choice residential farming Estate just under 200 acres watered by streams; beautifully situated Residence in charming old-world gardens, 3 reception, 6 bedrooms, bath h. and c., Aga, main electric light. Exceptional buildings passed for T.T. Three cottages. Very accessible road or rail. **£13,000 FREEHOLD.** Possession.

WOODCOCKS, London Office.

**WEST SUSSEX** (½ mile charming village, 11 Guildford). **CHOICE DAIRY FARM, 52 ACRES.** Gentleman's house standing high in beautifully maintained gardens (3 sitting, 4 bedrooms, 3 with basins; central heating; main electric light and water; telephone). Cottage, 2 beds., bath. Electric. Model farm buildings with pedigree rowsheds for 19. Possession of whole Sept. 29, but tenant of land would remain if desired. **A UNIQUE PROPERTY AT £11,500.**—WOODCOCKS, London Office.

# TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley St., W.1

Grosvenor 2861 Telegrams: "Cornishmen, London"

£9,750. **GEORGIAN RESIDENCE. 5 ACRES**

DORSET, between Bath and Bournemouth, amidst lovely country, **CHARMING STONE-BUILT RESIDENCE** in excellent order. Galleried lounge hall, 3 reception, 3 bath., 5-6 principal bedrooms, 4 staff rooms. Electric light, central heating. Esse cooker, telephone, garages, stabling, lodge. Delightful grounds with lovely trees, lawns, walled kitchen and fruit gardens, orchard, paddocks. Strongly recommended.—TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (8767)

**67 ACRES. £8,500.**

**WARWICKS.,** 2 miles Stratford and Warwick, 15 miles Birmingham. **DAIRY AND MIXED FARM** with brick-built farmhouse, 5 bed. (2 h. and c.), bath, 2 sitting rooms. Garage, farm buildings, cowhouse for 17, etc. Land roughly half arable and half pasture.—TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (20355)

**BASINGSTOKE** 6 miles, ¾ mile village and bus. **MODERN COUNTRY RESIDENCE,** 2 reception, 2 bath., 7 bed., playroom. Main electricity and water, central heating, telephone. Garage, cottage, grounds, tennis, kitchen garden, orchard and woodland. **8 ACRES. £7,000 FREEHOLD.**—TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (22118)

**NEW FOREST** (Hants), 2 miles Lyndhurst, 350 ft. up, lovely views. **ATTRACTIVE COUNTRY RESIDENCE,** 3 reception, 4 bath., 5 principal bedrooms, 5 secondary bedrooms. Electric light, central heating, garage, cottage, pleasure gardens, and beautiful forest and woodland. **£8,000 FREEHOLD.** Hunting, shooting.—TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (20801).

**£8,500 ¼ ACRE**

**SURREY HILLS.** Nice position in outer suburbs, high up. Modern House in good order, south aspect. Three reception, bath, 3 bedrooms, main services, part central heating. Telephone. Garage. Nice gardens.—TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (18807)

# WELLESLEY-SMITH & CO.,

17, BLAGRAVE STREET, READING. Reading 2920 & 4112.

**GLORIOUS SITUATION IN SOUTH WALES**

**OLD STONE-BUILT HOUSE, TWO COTTAGES, FARMERY AND 60 ACRES.** Amidst beautiful terraced gardens and commanding views over the sea. L-shaped hall, 3 large reception rooms, cloaks, 8 bedrooms, 3 bath. Electricity and water. Aga cooker. Two cottages. Garage. Arable and woodland.

**FREEHOLD £7,000**

WELLESLEY-SMITH, as above.

**HOUSE OF CHARACTER NEAR MAYFIELD**

Perfectly modernised, rich in period features and in perfect condition. Three sitting rooms, galleried staircase, maids' room, 6-7 bedrooms, 2 bath. Cottage, garage, hard tennis court, rose garden, orchard, woodland, kitchen garden, pasture.

**25 ACRES. FREEHOLD. £11,000**

WELLESLEY-SMITH, as above.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD. VACANT POSSESSION.

**WARGRAVE, BERKS** (few minutes' walk from station). **CHARMING LOW-BUILT THAMES-SIDE RESIDENCE:** terraced garden, French-windowed terrace above fine lawn sloping to river.

LOVELY VIEWS. COMPLETELY MODERNISED.

Three large oak-panelled reception rooms, billiard room, nursery, 8 bed., 3 bath. Co.'s water, electricity, telephone. Labour-saving central heating by gas. Greenhouse. Boathouse, private embankment. **PRICE £4,750.**

Reply Box 481, c/o COUNTRY LIFE, Tower House, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.2.

Telegrams: "Wood, Agents, Wesdo, London."

# JOHN D. WOOD & CO.

23, BERKELEY SQUARE, LONDON, W.1

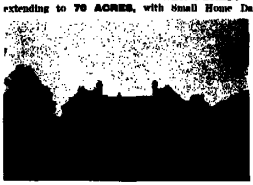
Mayfair 3291 (10 lines)

## IN NEW FOREST

*Eight miles from Southampton.*

ONE OF THE MOST ATTRACTIVE RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES IN THE NEW FOREST

extending to 70 ACRES, with Small Home Dairy Farm and four Cottages.



Modern House in bow-windowed style added to an 16th - century Ranger's Lodge.

Long drive with lodge. Four reception rooms, 9 first-floor bedrooms with 4 bath rooms, 6 second-floor bedrooms and another bathroom.

Main electricity and water. Oil-burning central heating plant. Beautiful grounds with many rare trees and shrubs. Sufficient grassland for small dairy herd and horses, the remainder woodland.

PRICE £13,500 for Crown Lease (30 years to run) at nominal rent of £100.

Inspected and highly recommended by the Agents: JOHN D. WOOD & Co., 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1. (82270)

FOR SALE BY PRIVATE TREATY

THE FINE HISTORIC COUNTY SEAT

## CONDOVER HALL, NEAR SHREWSBURY

with 106 ACRES.

Noble suite of reception rooms, lift, 23 bed and dressing rooms, 11 bathrooms, electric light, central heating throughout. Estate water. Splendid modern stabling and garages. Old-world gardens and pleasure grounds. Four cottages, woodlands, and 68 ACRES of parkland intersected by a trout stream.

ADMIRABLY SUITABLE FOR SCHOLASTIC OR INSTITUTIONAL PURPOSES.

POSSESSION OF THE MANSION AND GROUNDS ON COMPLETION.

Further particulars from JOHN D. WOOD & Co., 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1.

VACANT POSSESSION

## FAVOURITE PART OF WEST SUSSEX

*Overlooking the Downs within half mile of Storrington and close to bus service to Pulborough (5 miles), Brighton and Worthing.*

Within easy reach of the West Sussex Golf Course. This attractive house with 4 bedrooms, bathroom, large drawing room, panelled dining room. Radiators.

MAIN ELECTRICITY AND WATER.

Garage. Beautifully timbered grounds with choice trees and shrubs.

FOR SALE AT A REASONABLE PRICE

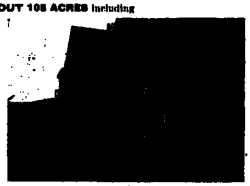
Inspected and recommended by JOHN D. WOOD & Co., 23, Berkeley Square, W.1. (83048)

## SUSSEX DOWNS

*On the edge of the Downs between Haywards Heath and Brighton.*

AN ATTRACTIVE RESIDENTIAL ESTATE OF ABOUT 108 ACRES including

Charming House with pleasing long low elevation half timbered, approached by a long carriage drive with lodge and garage at entrance. Bungalow. Fifteen bed and dressing rooms, 4 reception rooms, 4 bathrooms, panelled hall, terraced gardens.



FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION.

Further particulars from Messrs. ROWLAND GORINGE & Co., High Street, Lewes, and Messrs. JOHN D. WOOD & Co., 23, Berkeley Square, W.1. (30950)

# FAREBROTHER, ELLIS & CO.

Central 8344/5/6/7

Established 1799

AUCTIONEERS, CHARTERED SURVEYORS, LAND AGENTS.

29, FLEET STREET, LONDON, E.C.4

Telegrams: "Farebrother, London"

## ST. LEONARDS-ON-SEA

AN ATTRACTIVE HOUSE

Six principal and 3 secondary bedrooms. Three bathrooms

Dining room and double lounge. Central heating.

Companies' water, electric light and gas. Main drainage.

Garage.

Charming gardens including sloping lawns, shrubberies, herbaceous beds and borders, together with an area of pasture in all about

7½ ACRES

TO BE SOLD FREEHOLD

With possession.

Further particulars of the Agents: Messrs. FAREBROTHER, ELLIS & CO., 29, Fleet Street, London E.C.4. Messrs. JOHN BRAY & SONS, 11, Warrior Square, St. Leonards-on-Sea.

TOTTENHAM COURT RD., W.1 (Euston 7080)

# MAPLE & Co., LTD.

5, GRAFTON ST., MAYFAIR, W.1 (Regent 4685)

*Preliminary Notice.* ON THE SUSSEX COAST WITH PRIVATE BEACH

*Freehold Modern Residence*

"Seacroft," Cooden Beach containing fine south sun lounge, drawing room, dining room, study, excellent offices, with maids' sitting room, 7 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, central heating, fitted basins. Co.'s services. Large garage (2 cars) and fine garden with lawn, concrete built bathing chalet and steps to private beach. Vacant possession on completion. TO BE SOLD by Auction in September unless sold privately beforehand.

*By direction of H. H. Cardwell, Esq.*

*"Beautiful district, 3½ miles Haywards Heath.* MID-SUSSEX *Freehold Country Property.*

"Paynesfield," Albourne, containing hall, lounge, 3 reception rooms, 9 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, electric light (own plant), Co.'s gas and water. Excellent outbuildings. Stabling for 6, fine barn, 2 cottages, etc. Delightful gardens and four enclosures, in all nearly 22 ACRES. Vacant possession on completion.

To be Sold by Public Auction on August 20, 1946, unless sold by private treaty beforehand.

Joint Auctioneers: BANNISTER & Co., Haywards Heath, and MAPLE & Co., LTD., as above.

Joint Auctioneers: MAPLE & Co., LTD., 5, Grafton Street, W.1, and GORDON GREEN & WEBBER, 11, Sea Road, Bexhill-on-Sea.

22, MOUNT ST., GROSVENOR SQ., LONDON, W.1

# WILSON & CO.

Grosvenor 1441

### LOVELY PART OF SUSSEX

*Delightful unspoiled country, 40 miles London.*

**SINGULARLY CHARMING OLD PERIOD HOUSE** completely modernised and in first-rate order. Seven bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception. Wealth of old oak and other features. Main services. Central heating. Garage. Finely timbered gardens, kitchen garden, etc. **£8,500 WITH 1½ ACRES. VACANT POSSESSION.**

*Sole Agents:* WILSON & CO., 23, *Mount Street, W.1.*

### DELIGHTFUL GEORGIAN HOUSE

*Lovely part of Wiltshire. 400 ft. up. Glorious views.*

**SET WITHIN LOVELY OLD GARDENS AND FINELY TIMBERED PARK.** 10-11 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, 4 reception. In first-rate order. Electric light, central heating, etc. Stabling. Garages. Home farm (let). Four cottages. A small estate of most attractive character. **£15,000 WITH 104 ACRES.**

*Agents:* WILSON & CO., 23, *Mount Street, London, W.1.*

### LOVELY OLD PERIOD HOUSE

*One hour south of London.*

**IN FIRST-RATE ORDER AND BEAUTIFULLY APPOINTED, WITH DUE SOUTH ASPECT.** Nine bed and dressing rooms, 4 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, excellent domestic offices, fine music room 45 ft. x 25 ft. Central heating, main water, electric light, h. and c. in all principal bedrooms. Three excellent cottages. **FOR SALE WITH 80 ACRES.** House would be sold *with small area.* *Agents:* WILSON & CO., *as above.*

# CLASSIFIED PROPERTIES

*2/- per line. (Min. 3 lines.) Box fee 1/6.*

## AUCTIONS

**"TOWN FARM," LITTLE MISSENDEN**
*Between Great Missenden and Amersham, Bucks.* Comprising XVII-CENTURY HOUSE, extensive buildings, bailiff's living accommodation and **176 ACRES**, with vacant possession at Michaelmas. For Sale by Auction on August 30 by

**WHATLEY, HILL & CO.**
24, Ryder Street, London, S.W. (Tel.: Whitehall 4511), in conjunction with
**HAMNETT, RAFFETY & CO.**
30, High Street, High Wycombe (Tel.: High Wycombe 1330).

*By direction of the Exors. of Arthur Smith, decd.* A CHOICE FREEHOLD COUNTRY RESIDENCE known as "The Pines," Puckeridge, Herts. *3 reception rooms, 7 bed and dressing rooms*, excellent domestic offices, all in exceptional repair and condition. Charming pleasure grounds. Gardener's cottage, stabling, paddock, in all about **2½ ACRES.** VACANT POSSESSION on completion of purchase which
**Messrs. NASH, SON & ROWLEY**
have been instructed to sell by Auction at Long's Restaurant, Bishop's Stortford, Herts., on Friday, August 9, 1946, at 3 o'clock p.m. Particulars and conditions of sale and appointments for viewing may be obtained of Messrs. HARE & SON, Solicitors, Much Hadham, Herts, and of the Auctioneers, Royston and Buntingford, Herts.

**SUSSEX.** "New Barn," West Chiltington, between Horsham and the coast. A very attractive Modernised Residence, 3 reception, cloakroom, usual offices, 7 bed and dressing rooms, bathroom, main services. Double garage. Old farm buildings. 8 or 16 acres. With possession. By Auction, August 21.—Particulars, 2/- each, of the Auctioneers: Messrs. RACKHAM & SMITH, 31, Carfax, Horsham. 'Phone 311 and 312.

**WINTER HILL HOUSE**
**COOKHAM DEAN**
Eight bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, staff flat with bathroom. Cottage. Three garages. Glasshouses. Well-timbered grounds of near **4 ACRES** FOR SALE BY AUCTION at Maidenhead on Tuesday next, July 30. Auctioneers:
**GIDDYS**
Maidenhead (Tel. 53 and 54).

## FOR SALE

**BANSTEAD DOWNS, SURREY.** In the bracing position 400 ft. above sea level, close to Downland and several Golf Courses, and within easy distance of Sutton with its good shopping centre and good train and bus facilities. A Modern Detached Freehold Residence containing: Hall, 2 reception rooms, 4 bedrooms, tiled bathroom and up-to-date offices. Garage and very pleasant garden. VACANT POSSESSION. £3,950. Write, PIDGEON, F.S.I., Chartered Surveyors, Cheam, Surrey.

**BASINGSTOKE 5½ MILES.** Quietly placed Country Residence. Hall, lounge 24 ft. x 21 ft., dining and smoking rooms, 9 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, modern offices. *Cottage. Garages. Main water and electricity.* Central heating. Paddock, orcharding, 2 tennis lawns, in all about 4½ acres. £7,200 Freehold. Vacant possession.—Confidently recommended by GRIBBLE, BOOTH AND SHEPHERD, Basingstoke.

**BERKS, NEAR MAIDENHEAD.** Delightful 15th-century Cottage, every modern convenience. Five bed, 2 rec., dining hall, 2 bath, kitchen. Usual offices. Companies' light and water. Modern drains. Double garage. Charming gardens, 1¾ acres. Freehold £8,000 (or offer).—HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. Regent 8222. B.42,108.

**DITTON HILL, SURREY.** Delightful woodland setting 2-3 acres yet only 20 minutes Waterloo. Architect designed of Tudor style on 2 floors. 8 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 4 reception (3 over 30 ft.). Double garage. Gardener's cottage. Tennis lawn, orchard, greenhouses, etc. Owner retiring to country. Offers. Freehold with immediate possession.—GASCOIGNE-PEES, Charter House, Claremont Road, Surbiton. Elmbridge 4141.

## FOR SALE

**BOURNEMOUTH (PARKSTONE).** Luxurious residence, 5 bed (2 basins), bathroom, lounge hall, 3 reception rooms, sun lounge, Ideal kitchen. Workshop, boiler room (central heating). Garage. Telephone. Beautifully laid-out grounds. Gardener and charwoman available. Many unique labour-saving features. Fine modern furniture, fitted carpets, refrigerator to be purchased at valuation. Freehold price £5,300.—Plans and illustrated particulars from the Sole Agents: ADAMS, RENCH & WRIGHT, LTD., Ashley Cross, Parkstone (Tel. 2580/1).

**BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.** In the beautiful Stoke Poges district. In unspoilt country within 23 miles of London. Charming old *Country House dating from 16th century and* containing lounge hall, 3 reception rooms, 10 bedrooms and 3 bathrooms. In excellent condition. Main water, gas and electricity. Farm buildings. 18 acres of well-timbered land. With Vacant Possession. Also picturesque Cottage with 3 bedrooms, 2 living rooms, bathroom. For sale freehold £14,000, or the house would be sold with approximately 7½ acres for £8,750.—Apply: Messrs. WHATLEY, HILL & CO., Estate Agents, 24, Ryder Street, St. James's, London, S.W.1. Telephone: Whitehall 4511.

**CORNWALL.** Braeside, King's Road, Penzance. Good investment. Attractive Residence, stone-built, own grounds ½ acre, 15 minutes sea. Hall, dining room, large drawing room, good kitchen, gas cooker, Ideal boiler, 3 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 w.c.s Electric light. Large toolshed. Exterior just completely renovated. At present tenant occupied on yearly lease, rent £65. Vacant possession Lady Day, 1947, if six months' notice given Michaelmas. £3,500.—Apply: Mrs. G. CARRUTHERS, Frome Cottage, Frampton, Dorset.

**COUNTRY.** Georgian House in small *town, with glorious garden to River Avon*, suitable for residential or business purposes; now used as 2 houses, shop and garages. 9 bedrooms, 4 reception, 2 bathrooms, etc. Mains services. Suit two families. Vacant possession.—A. T. MORLEY HEWITT, Fordingbridge, Hants. Tel. 2121.

**ESHER,** facing Sandown Park. Very fine detached Residence, 8 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception, cloakroom, excellent offices. Extensive gardens. Garage 4 cars. Freehold £5,500. RICHMOND PARK. Very lovely detached modern Residence perfectly decorated and appointed, 5 bedrooms, 2 reception, cloakroom, maids' sitting room, tiled kitchen. Large garden. Garage. Freehold £6,000.—Sole Agents: SCOTTS, 274, Upper Richmond Road, S.W.14. PROspect 1191.

**ESSEX.** Ashford Lodge, Halstead, within 50 miles of London, in the lovely valley of the Colne. Particularly well-built 1933 Residence, lounge hall, 3 reception, 10 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. 8-horse stable, 4 garages, farmery, cottage and lodge. Gardens, glass houses, pasture land in all 88 acres, shortly to be derequisitioned. Price £11,000 freehold.—Apply: STANLEY MOGER, O.B.E., F.A.I., Halstead.

**MENDIP HILLS.** 3½ miles Wells. Excellent views. Small Cottage, 2 bedrooms, lounge dining kitchen, bathroom. Vacant possession of cottage. 35 acres land attached, possession later. Price for the whole £2,500.—Details application: W. J. TOLLEY & HILL, Estate Agents, 58, Baldwin Street, Bristol. Phone 20562.

**MIDLOTHIAN.** Hatton Estate for sale, 8 miles west of Edinburgh with 162 acres in all. Hatton House stands about 85 acres of gardens, wooded policies and parks and has been a famous Midlothian residence since 1655. The house, in perfect modern condition, contains 5 reception rooms, 21 bedrooms in all, 7 bathrooms, passenger lift, electric light and central heating. Garages. Stables. Walled gardens. 6 cottages. Also Orchardfield Farm of 77 acres, let on lease, with house of 2 sitting rooms, kitchen, 5 bedrooms, bathroom, etc., and ample steading for the herd of 26 T.T. cows.—Apply Sole Agent: C. W. INGRAM, F.S.I., 90, Princes Street, Edinburgh.

## FOR SALE

**IRELAND.** Raheen, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary. Beautiful Residence situate on the outskirts of the town of Clonmel overlooking the River Suir, held for ever free of rent. The house is large but very convenient with hall, 3 large reception rooms, 5 best bedrooms with dressing rooms and other accommodation with kitchen (Esse cooker), pantries on same floor as dining room (no basement), excellent water supply, with electric current for all purposes, wash basins (h. and c.) in most bedrooms, 2 bathrooms (h. and c.), 2 lavatories, kitchen yard and large outside yard with garage for 2 cars, stabling and gate lodge, 2 gardens both well stocked. The property including the gardens and pleasure grounds, comprises an area of 3 acres and is in first-class order and is situate in the heart of a sporting centre. Selling price £5,500.—Particulars, with photographs, on application to: HENRY SHANNON, Solicitor, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary, Eire.

**MIDDLETON-ON-SEA.** Near Bognor Regis. £3,500 freehold modern Detached House. Built just pre-war. 4 bed (fitted basins), 2 reception, all modern conveniences. Oak flooring. Built-in garage. Interior and exterior decorations. Excellent. In much favoured part. Quick sale. Owner going abroad.—Sole Agent: FRANK PEACH, 138, The Grove, West Wickham, Kent.

**NEW FOREST.** Beaulieu. A very attractive Residence, situated in pine woods above Beaulieu, built of red brick and old weathered tiles, well fitted with central heating and own electric light plant. Lounge hall with wood-burning fireplaces, 4 good reception rooms, 9 principal bedrooms, and 9 bedrooms on second floor, 4 bathrooms. Delightful grounds approximately 17 acres, principally wild garden easily maintained and containing rare rhododendrons, azaleas, and other flowering shrubs, also small kitchen garden. Tennis, grass and hard courts, and bathing lake. *Pair of excellent cottages, and garage* with covered wash. 99 years lease from 1910. Ground rent £50 p.a. For Sale, £10,000.—Apply, AGENT, Manor Office, Beaulieu.

**NORFOLK.** Timber sectional Bungalows: 4-roomed, £525: 5-roomed, £525-595. Complete in sections ex site Norfolk.—Send for full specification: D. McMASTER & Co., Mount Bures Works, near Colchester, Essex. Tel.: Bures 251-2.

**NORTH DEVON.** Occupying an unrivalled position in a park-like setting, yet convenient to a good town, a modern Country Residence of some character, 4 reception rooms, 8 bedrooms (7 fitted basins hot and cold), spacious bathroom, 2 garages and stabling. Fully stocked walled kitchen and fruit gardens and pasture in all 10 acres (more land available). Vacant possession. £5,600 freehold.—GRIBBLE, BOOTH & SHEPHERD, 9, Hendford, Yeovil.

**SOUTH BUCKS CHILTERNS.** 17th-Century Farm-house. Two reception and 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, main services, central heating. Garage for 2. Studio. Walled gardens 4 acres. Perfect order. £8,850.—Agents: HAMNETT, RAFFETY AND CO., 30, High Street, High Wycombe.

**SURREY, NEAR GUILDFORD.** Picturesque 16th-century Farmhouse Residence, wealth of oak beams, every modern comfort, first-class order. Seven bed, 2 rec., lounge hall, 2 bath, main services, modern drains. Double garage. Delightful old-world gardens amounting to 1¼ acres. Freehold £12,000 to include certain tenant's fittings. HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. Regent 8222. S.51909.

**SUSSEX.** 10 minutes' walk Crawley Station. Really well-built Residence, delightfully and most conveniently situated. Excellent garden of about 1 acre with tennis lawn, matured trees, etc. Accommodation: 5 principal bedrooms, 3 reception rooms, 2 bathrooms. All mains, central heating, large garage. In addition, an almost self-contained flat on second floor which a butler and his wife are anxious to occupy for services rendered. Price £6,500, highly recommended. —Apply: WM. WOOD, SON & GARDNER, Chartered Surveyors, Auctioneers, Crawley, Sussex. Tel. 1 (3 lines).

## FOR SALE

**SURREY.** Unique long, low Country House, 14 miles London. 4 reception, 7 bed and dressing, 3 bath. Perfect condition. 6 acres. 2 cottages, stabling, garage 3. Hard tennis court. £14,000. No offers.—Box 406.

**WEST SUSSEX COAST.** Overlooking the sea, in a very pleasant residential neighbourhood. Modern architect-designed House in perfect order. Hall with cloakrooms, large lounge, dining room, 6 bedrooms, 2 bath rooms, kitchen. Double garage. Main services. Delightful garden. Price, with vacant possession, £7,950. Immediate inspection recommended.—Owner's Agents: WYATT AND SON, 59, East Street, Chichester. (Tel.: Chichester 2296).

## WANTED

**ABERDEEN, INVERNESS, PERTHSHIRE BORDERS.** Large price offered for grouse moor with really comfortable House suitable for residence all the year round. Rough shooting and fishing an attraction.—Particulars to JOHN D. WOOD AND CO., 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1.

**ANY REASONABLE HUNTING COUNTRY** north or west of London will be considered with special preference for Cotswolds. Residential and Agricultural Estate required as the permanent residence of peer's eldest son. Small mansion with under 20 bedrooms. Modernised and in good habitable condition. Up to 2,000 acres of land preferably let but affording some sporting. —Owners, Agents and Solicitors are requested to communicate with JACKSON STOPS AND STAFF, 8, Hanover Street, London, W.1, who are instructed to purchase and who do not require commission from the Vendors. Replies to 8, Hanover Street, London, W.1.

**ANYWHERE** within the area 25 miles south of London. Young couple with baby wish to rent unfurnished House or Flat. Maximum rent £130 p.a. Occupation desired July.—Box 391.

**HEREFORDSHIRE.** Country House required. 7-8 bedrooms, 3 sitting, 2-3 bath. Main services and central heating essential. Really good cottage or lodge, and accommodation over garage. Well-kept-up garden. Few acres for privacy.—Box 392.

**OXFORD AND READING** (within reach). To purchase for use as a Women's Institute College, a Country House with about 30 bedrooms and good kitchen garden preferably.—Box 393.

**SEVENOAKS, MAIDSTONE DISTRICT PREFERRED.** Within 30 miles south of London. Canadian officer, recently demobilised and taking up a Canadian business appointment in London, wants to bring wife and children here in August/September, and requires to rent a house containing 4, 5 or 6 bedrooms. First-class personal references.—Replies to Major PETER GRIFFIN, Nearly Corner, Heverham, Sevenoaks. Telephone: Seal 97.

**SOUTH OR WEST MIDLANDS OR SOUTHERN COUNTIES.** Small Country House to buy or lease. 3-4 *reception*, 5-7 bedrooms. Main electricity. One or more cottages. Grass and woodlands 200-300 acres or shooting rights over that acreage. No disturbance of farm tenant.—Box 390.

**SURREY, SUSSEX OR HANTS,** in country or suburbs. Wanted to buy or rent, small detached modern House, 2 sitting and 3 or 4 bedrooms.—Box 389.

**WEST SUSSEX OR SURREY.** Wanted purchase, Country Estate 200-300 acres, with good residence. Price up to £30,000.—GLADDING, SON & WING, 8-11, Pavilion Buildings, Brighton.

## TO LET

**DEVONSHIRE.** Part picturesque Farmhouse, to be let furnished. W.C., hot water, electric light. 4 gns. a week. Reduction if man helps on farm.—Box 405.

**NEWBURY** (near). Craven country. Opportunity for ex-cavalry officer wishing to start Riding and Hunting Stables. To let, good Cottage and stabling on estate.—Capt. Cox, Elcot Park, Kentbury, Newbury, Berks.

ESTATE

Kensington 1490
Telegrams:
"Estate, Harrods, London"

# HARRODS

34-36, HANS CRESCENT, LONDON, S.W.1

OFFICES

Surrey Offices:
West Byfleet
and Haslemere

## BUCKS, BEDS AND NORTHANTS BORDERS c.2

*Amid rural surroundings, 6 miles main line station, than 1 hour London.*

### REGENCY HOUSE WITH MOATED GARDEN

Four reception, 7 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Main services, electric heating. Garage 3. Stabling. Beautiful gardens with moat, also walled garden.

**ABOUT 3 ACRES**

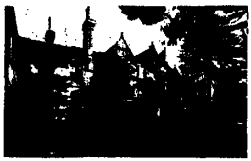
**PRICE FREEHOLD £7,000**

Also Farmery with cottage and farm of about 104 acres can be had if required with vacant possession.

Recommended by HARRODS LTD., 34-36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1. (*Tel.: Kensington* 1490. *Extn.* 809.)

## CHARMING REGENCY STYLE HOUSE IN BERKS. c.3

*Convenient situation about 30 miles from town, with main line service.*



### RESIDENCE OF CHARM AND CHARACTER

In park-like grounds of about **12 ACRES**

Six receptions, 10 bedrooms, dressing room, 4 bathrooms. Modern drainage, Companies' electric light and water. Central heating.

Garage. Stabling. Gardener's flat. Beautiful gardens and meadowland.

**FOR SALE FREEHOLD**

HARRODS LTD., 34-36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1 (*Tel.: Kensington* 1490. *Extn.* 807.)

## GLORIOUS HINDHEAD DISTRICT c.3/H

*Pleasant position in one of the healthiest parts of Surrey, 70 minutes Town from home.*

### ATTRACTIVE FREEHOLD RESIDENCE

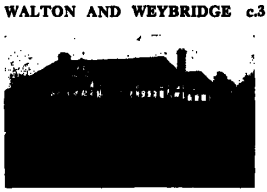
Co.'s electric light, gas and water. Central heating. Three receptions, 7-8 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, maid's sitting room, 2 garages, picturesque secluded grounds, tennis lawn, rose garden, kitchen garden, portion let in natural state,

**IN ALL ABOUT 3 ACRES**

**FOR SALE, REASONABLE PRICE**

HARRODS LTD., 34-36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1 (*Tel.: Kensington* 1490. *Extn.* 807) and Haslemere, Surrey (*Tel.: Haslemere* 053/4).

## WALTON AND WEYBRIDGE c.3



### CHARMING TUDOR STYLE RESIDENCE

In choice position near excellent golf.

Two receptions, loggia, 5 beds., bathrooms, main services, garage, lovely garden, rose garden, fruit trees, kitchen garden,

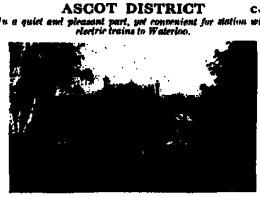
**IN ALL ABOUT ONE ACRE**

**FOR SALE FREEHOLD**

Recommended by HARRODS LTD., 34-36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1 (*Tel.: Kensington* 1490. *Extn.* 807) and West Byfleet, Surrey (*Tel.: Byfleet* 149).

## ASCOT DISTRICT c.2

*In a quiet and pleasant part, yet convenient for station with electric trains to Waterloo.*



### ATTRACTIVE WELL-MAINTAINED RESIDENCE

Sitting hall, 3 reception, billiards or playroom, 7 bed., 3 bath.

MAIN SERVICES. COMPLETE CENTRAL HEATING

Two garages, cottage with bath. Beautiful gardens and grounds of about

**4½ ACRES**

including hard tennis court.

**FREEHOLD FOR SALE**

HARRODS LTD., 34-36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1 (*Tel.: Kensington* 1490. *Extn.* 809.)

## BEACONSFIELD c.4

ON TWO FLOORS ONLY.

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**16½ ACRES**, including mill pond and paddock.

Chauffeur's cottage, garage for 2 cars, Co.'s electric light and water, modern drainage.

**PRICE £17,500 FREEHOLD**

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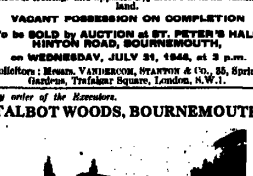
Solicitors: Messrs. VANDERCOM, STANTON & CO., 55, Spring Gardens, Trafalgar Square, London, S.W.1.

*By order of the Executors.*

### TALBOT WOODS, BOURNEMOUTH



The extremely attractive and imposing Freehold Residence

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5 principal bedrooms, 3 secondary bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, billiards room, 3 reception rooms, lounge hall, sun lounge, servants' sitting-room, kitchen and offices. Spacious garage.

**Delightful gardens of about HALF AN ACRE**

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The Prominently Situated

**FREEHOLD SHOP PREMISES**

**53, HOLDENHURST ROAD**

Let to Mrs. B. G. Brooks, tobacconist, on lease expiring December 25, 1948, at £175 per annum, tenant paying rates. The adjoining and similar premises,

**54, HOLDENHURST ROAD**

Let to Mr. F. Green, hairdresser, on lease for 21 years from September, 1943, at £250 per annum, tenant paying rates.

**To be SOLD by AUCTION (in conjunction with Messrs. Way & Walter) at ST. PETER'S HALL, HINTON ROAD, BOURNEMOUTH, on WEDNESDAY, JULY 31, 1946, at 2 p.m.**

Solicitor: W. PARKINSON CURRIE, Esq., 17, Christchurch Road, Bournemouth.

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**A Delightful Modernised Detached Freehold COTTAGE-STYLE RESIDENCE**

Set in a well-stocked walled garden of about 1¼ acres, Two prolific orchards.

3 bedrooms, bathroom, lounge, entrance lounge with attractive brick fireplace, dining room, kitchen, usual offices. Detached staff cottage of 3 rooms and kitchen. All main services. Garage. Two greenhouses.

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**VACANT POSSESSION ON COMPLETION**

Of particular interest to those seeking a labour-saving home of particular charm, in peaceful surroundings yet within easy reach of town amenities.

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The Freehold Agricultural and Sporting Estate.

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Comprising an excellent house, farm buildings, cottages, arable and pasture lands, gallop and training grounds. The whole extending to an area of about 240 ACRES and producing a rental of about £642 per annum.

**To be SOLD by AUCTION at THE CASTLE HOTEL, DEVIZES, on THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 1946, at 3 p.m. (in conjunction with Tilley & Gutterwell)**

Solicitors: Messrs. J. W. MILLER & SON, Equity Chambers, High Street, Poole.

*By order of Lloyds Bank, Ltd., Executor and Trustee Dept., and Trustees of H. G. Deane Webb, deceased.*

Highly important Sale of Properties adjoining Bournemouth Pavilion, abutting upon the Lower Pleasure Gardens and with magnificent sea views.

The Two Well-built Residences

**10 and 12, BATH ROAD, BOURNEMOUTH**

Vacant possession of No. 10 will be given on completion of purchase. No. 12 arranged as three flats, producing a gross rental of £275 p.a. Vacant possession of the major portion can be obtained by September 29, 1946. The site affords an exceptional opportunity for future development.

Important sale of freehold shop property investments

### BOURNEMOUTH AND POOLE

**FREEHOLD SHOP PROPERTY**

**272, OLD CHRISTCHURCH ROAD, BOURNEMOUTH**

Shop and upper part on three floors let to Messrs. Cullens Stores, Ltd., on a full repairing and insuring lease for 21 years at £350 p.a.

**15, TOWNGATE STREET, POOLE**

Shop and upper part let to Mr. Golding, butcher, on a yearly tenancy at £52 p.a., tenant paying rates.

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To Investors and Speculators and to those requiring small departmental store with possession.

### BOURNEMOUTH

The very important and well-known block of

**FREEHOLD SHOP PROPERTY**

**known as 83, 85, 87, 89, 91, and 93, COMMERCIAL ROAD, BOURNEMOUTH**

Occupying a good position in the centre of this successful South Coast Town and having a frontage of 157 feet and a depth of 53 feet 6 inches. No. 83 is let (with the exception of the first floor front rooms, occupied by Turrants) on a full repairing lease from September 29, 1944, for seven years at a rental of £350 per annum, tenant paying rates. Vacant possession of the remainder on completion. The departmental store has been in the occupation of Turrants (Bournemouth) Ltd., trading in high-class ladies' wear, furriers, lingerie, etc.

**To be SOLD by AUCTION at ST. PETER'S HALL, HINTON ROAD, BOURNEMOUTH, on WEDNESDAY, JULY 31, 1946, at 3 p.m.**

Solicitors: Messrs. CHAS. G. LISTER & RUSSELL, Digby Chambers, Bournemouth.

### MEYRICK PARK, BOURNEMOUTH

*Occupying a superb position within a short walk of the centre of the town.*

The exceptionally attractive and well-built Family Residence

**"RUSHOLME," 10, ST. ANTHONY'S RD.**

5 principal and 4 secondary bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, sun lounge, lounge hall, good domestic offices, greenhouse, garage.

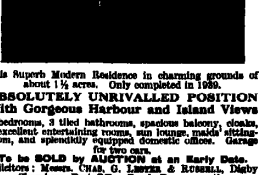
**Delightfully laid out garden of about HALF AN ACRE**

**Vacant possession on completion of purchase**

**To be SOLD by AUCTION at ST. PETER'S HALL, HINTON ROAD, BOURNEMOUTH, on THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1946, at 3 p.m.**

Solicitors: Messrs. WOOD & SONS, 1, St. Andrews Hill, London, E.C.4.

### "EVENING HILL," LILLIPUT, NEAR BOURNEMOUTH



This Superb Modern Residence in charming grounds of about 1½ acres. Only completed in 1939.

**ABSOLUTELY UNRIVALLED POSITION With Gorgeous Harbour and Island Views**

5 bedrooms, 2 tiled bathrooms, spacious balcony, cloaks, 2 excellent entertaining rooms, sun lounge, maids sitting-room, and splendidly equipped domestic offices. Garage for two cars.

**To be SOLD by AUCTION at an Early Date.**

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### BOURNEMOUTH. IN THE MAIN BOSCOMBE SHOPPING CENTRE

The Imposing Modern Block of Freehold Business Premises

**719 to 735, CHRISTCHURCH ROAD**

Having a valuable frontage of 182 feet at present arranged as and suitable for immediate occupation as a large departmental store, having actual front pavement window display of 191 feet, including two main entrances, comprising: Four handsome lofty showroom floors, with suitable offices, lavatories, and cloakrooms, with area for storage and use of goods entrance at rear. The whole having a total superficial floor area of 21,500 square feet. The premises are also eminently suitable for conversion into nine first-class shops for which good rentals could be obtained. Together with two small flats known as "Roscombe Court," Crabton Close Road, together producing £100 per annum inclusive. Current rates £20 per annum. Vacant possession of the whole premises excepting the two flats will be given on completion of the purchase.

**To be SOLD by AUCTION (in conjunction with Richard Godsell) at ST. PETER'S HALL, HINTON ROAD, BOURNEMOUTH, on WEDNESDAY, JULY 31, 1946, at 2 p.m.**

Solicitors: Messrs. REYNOLDS, ISAACS & HEWITT, 15, Avenue Road, Bournemouth.

### TALBOT PARK, BOURNEMOUTH

The Attractive Modern Freehold Residence

**16, GLENMOOR ROAD, BOURNEMOUTH**

5 bedrooms, bathroom, 3 reception rooms, kitchen and offices. Two garages. Attractive enclosed garden. Also an adjoining Freehold Building Site.

**Vacant Possession on completion.**

**To be SOLD by AUCTION at ST. PETER'S HALL, HINTON ROAD, BOURNEMOUTH, on THURSDAY, AUGUST 15, 1946, at 3 p.m. (in conjunction with Messrs. W. H. Willoughby & Sons)**

Solicitors: Messrs. LOCK, REED & LOCK, 53, High West Street, Dorchester.

FOX & SONS, HEAD OFFICE, 44-52, OLD CHRISTCHURCH ROAD, BOURNEMOUTH (11 BRANCH OFFICES)
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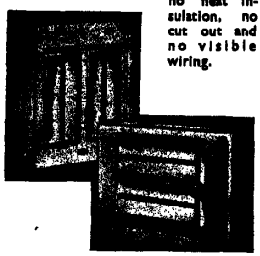

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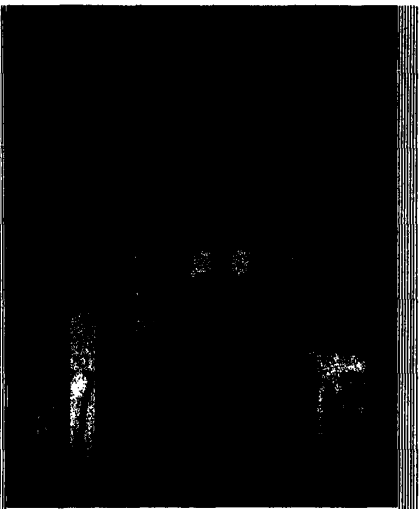

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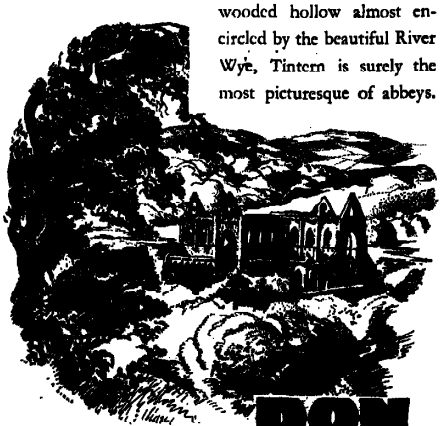

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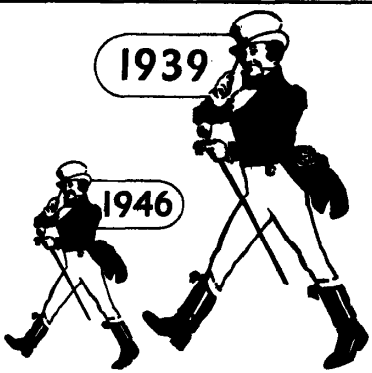


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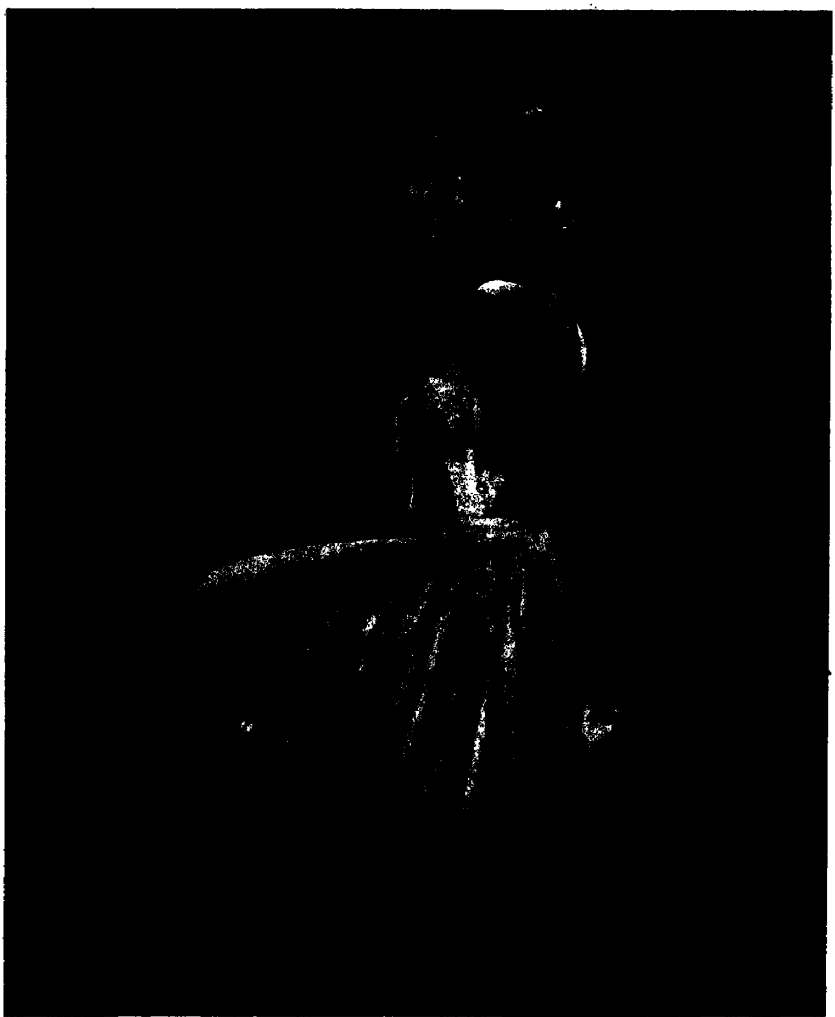
# COUNTRY LIFE

Vol. C No. 2584 JULY 26, 1946



*Harlip*

MISS MAXINE BIRLEY

Miss Birley is the only daughter of Captain and Mrs. Oswald Birley of Charleston Manor, West Dean, Sussex. Her engagement to Comte Alain de la Falaise, second son of the late Comte de la Falaise and of the Comtesse Antoine Hocquart de Turtot, rue Tasse, Paris, was recently announced

# COUNTRY LIFE

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## AUTOMOBILISM

IT was in October, 1895 that F. R. Sims suggested the name "motor car" for the new horseless carriage, the first of which to be built in this country, by the Lanchester brothers, was seen in that year. The principle and application of internal combustion is not the product of a single inventor nor even of men within a single century. The establishment of the British motor industry is the event of which the fiftieth anniversary is to be commemorated to-morrow by a retrospective cavalcade (how persistent still is the pre-petrol vocabulary!) of automobilism. In 1896 there was one factory, employing 200 men, the first International Exhibition of Motor Carriages was held at the Imperial Institute, and the repeal was set on foot of the law dating from 1831 requiring a man with a red flag to walk in front of a horseless carriage. These three events are rightly held to constitute the effective start of the revolution that within a decade ended the long empire of the horse.

The perfection of the steam engine during the previous hundred years—our railways' centenary was celebrated only just before the war—created the framework of the modern world, so much smaller, more populous and richer than in the pre-industrial ages. The conquest of the air in the present century has potentialities for the good, but, also, in common with the infinite possibilities of atomic fission, for the destruction of the human race. Of these four epoch-making discoveries, that of the internal combustion engine can be the most unreservedly welcomed in that its effects, while less disturbing to man's physical and spiritual habits, have contributed most on balance to his happiness.

Where the railways distended the towns and atrophied the countryside, preserving it indeed between the iron grids in comatose beauty, the motor has restored the pulse of healthy life. Bus and lorry and tractor have played as large a part in this rejuvenation as the half million of private cars achieved before the war.

The effect of fifty years of motoring could be summed up as an unparalleled accession to liberty, and it is pleasant at this jubilee to welcome the restoration of an instalment of that liberty in the increased petrol ration. But half a century has been too short for the corresponding adjustments of responsibility to have been effected. The motor car, as that visionary American planner, Lewis Mumford, now in this country, was among the first to grasp, enables but has not produced a centrifugal process in city planning. The motor car requires, but has not obtained, a new road system to that evolved by pack-horse and coach. Motor traffic, that opener to all of the visual beauty of the landscape, has been preyed on by the way-side advertiser—and here it is good to be assured that the Government has restrictive measures in hand. Finally, and by far the most serious, the freedom of the road exacts an annual toll in life as heavy as an atom bomb. Until highways and city streets are reconstructed in terms of modern motor traffic, the loss of life must be high but could be greatly reduced by universal observance of the Highway Code. The revised and simplified version needs to be read, marked and learned till every human being is as motor minded as, most curious consequence of the motor's coming, dogs and horses have become. The reimposition of driving tests is also announced, and is welcome. But if all who received provisional licences during the war are to be tested, the examiners will have long grey beards and many of their victims have given up driving on the score of age before they have done, unless a clean licence is accepted, as it might well be, as proof of competence to drive.

## INTERDEPENDENCE

*STARVING man will tell you of bread's flavour,*
*Only he knows truly:*
*So prisoner will tell you what is free;*
*And what is beauty you shall hear from me,*
*Whose heart is empty.*

*It is not lavish glory, pomp of sunset,*
*Nor is it the dark rose:*
*Not sombre raincloud squadrons hurrying over,*
*Not sob of violin, nor cry of plover:*
*Yet is in all those.*

*It is chord and grateful ear in soft collision,*
*Pale dawn in lifted eye;*
*It is the reverent fingers in caress,*
*Thankful lip sweet curved in tenderness,*
*Heart overfull to sigh.*

D. W. REYNOLDS.

## ANOTHER CIVIC TRUST

YORK, the military capital of Roman Britain, preserves within its walls relics of Saxon days, guild-halls and streets of the mediæval town, and an almost bewildering variety of buildings belonging to the "aristocratic" phase which ended with the eighteenth century. So the York Civic Trust, recently formed, will have plenty to protect and preserve. It is a pity indeed that it was not formed years ago when both Oxford and Cambridge set up similar organisations, for since the beginning of the century treasures have been lost and vandalism displayed, which such a Trust might have prevented. Its aims, now that it exists, are to be positive and not merely confined to preservation. The Trust, indeed, intends to restore the ancient city to its once proud position as the artistic capital of the North of England. Such a dual role is also being played to-day by the newly established Regency Society of Brighton—among the objects of whose "Regency Festival" is the restoration and redecoration of the Royal Pavilion. In a period of rebuilding, moreover, the Society do not propose to confine their activities to preserving the architecture of a single period. Their aims are much wider, and they will have their say with regard to the future as well as the past. Many other such local societies fortunately are being formed in other towns, and it is important that they should not only be able to argue their case, but should have the funds and powers to act in the public interest. Much can also be done in villages, and the "Committee of Management" set up at Selborne under the National Trust is another interesting experiment.

## ADVENTURE IN SUSSEX

THE chief objection to the Three Bridges Crawley area, with its useful levels and its railways, being designated as a New Town would appear to be that, if a great deal of lovely country to the south and south-west is not to be sacrificed, its northern boundary will have to be fixed so far north as to make it practically contiguous with the expanding dormitory settlement around Horley. Horley itself is already separated by a small enough margin from Reigate and Redhill, and if all development to the north is not absolutely excluded meanwhile, by the time the town is built it will simply be an outer—if better organised—extension of the Great Sprawl. The alternative of cutting into Worth and Tilgate Forests seems unthinkable, and the attitude of the countryside to such a proposal is already evident at Crawley. Obviously, as we said last week, the "great adventures" of which Mr. Silkin spoke recently are going to cause him many a headache, and perhaps much disappointment at the end, unless all existing authorities (including the L.C.C.) who have immediate housing problems to solve, can be made to play the game and concert their own programmes with those of the New Towns. Lord Gage put the Sussex view in a nutshell when he told the House of Lords that if that county was to have a new town on its northern border, and the suburban sprawl was not checked, the only effect would be an officially sponsored increase in population, through the new town, of an area into which people were continually being imported by "unsponsored" means. Lord Reith at the same time asked for more information as to the degree of independence which was to be granted to the New Town development corporations which his Committee had recommended, but received only a vague assurance, in reply, that they were to have "the maximum freedom in carrying out their duties." Lord Reith's own contention is that they should have freedom comparable with an ordinary commercial concern, and the powers to undertake development of any ordinary landowner. That is, however, not likely to be the view of the Treasury.

## PARTRIDGE PROSPECTS

UNTIL they are gathered the crops invariably conceal a high percentage of the annual hatch of game, and it is too soon at the moment, to form any reasoned forecast of the coming partridge season. Partridges nest early and late in any year, of course, and the earlier the better to avoid widespread cutting out of nests when tractor mowers get busy on the grass. Normally from June 15 to 25 is the critical period for the bulk of the partridge hatch, which whether good, bad, or indifferent then depends entirely on the weather. And the weather this year over most of the country—gales, thunderstorms, hailstones as big as marbles, downpours that turned the low ground into swamps, and flattened acres of crops in some of the best partridge country in East Anglia—has left very uncertain the percentage of tiny chicks, half buried under soaking uncut grass, that survived the last ten days of June. The full tale will be told a month hence, when the coveys, or what is left of them, come out of the standing corn.

## "STRATFORD MILL"

LORD SWAYTHLING'S pictures, sold at Christie's, were the talk of the town for a week—welcome symptom of returning conditions of peace. First news of the price given for Constable's *Stratford Mill*, 43,500 guineas, caused pessimists to lament that at that figure it must have been bought for the U.S.A. But they reckoned without Mr. Walter Hutchinson who, fortunately discovering boys fishing in the picture, secured this exquisite masterpiece of trees and water in fitful sunlight for his collection of British Sporting Pictures. Gainsborough's *Harvest Waggon* qualifies nearly as well in subject, and certainly as art, for inclusion too, but was secured by Professor Bodkin for Birmingham. Thus were two paintings of outstanding beauty safeguarded. Mr. Hutchinson says it is proving impossible to find a gallery for the collection he is munificently giving to the nation. Could not one of the now empty mansions of the Georgian nobility be so used?

# A COUNTRYMAN'S NOTES

*By*

**Major C. S. JARVIS**

IN a very ancient volume on the Forest Rights of the New Forest, I came across mention of a regulation, now in abeyance, though I doubt if it has been rescinded, which prohibits the free grazing of animals "during the months of fence and winter hayning." The "month of fence," I take it, is the fawning season of the hinds, which was most important in the days when the deer of the Forest were the *raison d'être* for its existence, but "winter hayning" is beyond me unless it refers to the feeds of hay, which most owners of deer parks find necessary during the coldest part of the winter to eke out the grazing. I suppose in the old feudal days, when the Forest keeper was entitled to put an arrow through any heifer found eating the deer's ration, and another into its owner if he happened to be in the offing and raised an objection, the regulation could be enforced, but, short of this drastic treatment, I do not think the revival of the prohibition to-day would have much effect beyond causing an inordinate number of animals to be turned out to take advantage of the hay spread for the deer.

* * *

THE drawback to Forest Rights, and the ancillary perquisites which seem to go with them, is the number of small-holders in the vicinity who make the fullest use of them, but who are not legally entitled to them. The fact that there are heifers and ponies which have old-established rights on the Forest and which occasionally, or, shall we say, frequently, roam along the roads and lanes in the area, rather cramps the activities of the local police with regard to straying animals on highways, for it is argued that Forest stock have a right to be anywhere within the ancient confines of the New Forest, and nobody is very certain where these old boundaries are beyond the fact that they extend almost to Bournemouth in one direction. The result of this is that a number of small stock-keepers, whose holdings do not entitle them to grazing rights on the Forest, take advantage of the situation and turn their animals out on to the roads and lanes in the evening for a meal off the wayside grass, which is particularly lush this wettest of all years. The average heifer does not appear to be a very intelligent animal, but she possesses a palate and has a wonderful memory for gardens, the crops which are growing in them and the weak spots in every hedge and fence. When the police take the matter up the small-holder glibly pleads Forest Rights when as a matter of fact he has none, and none of his animals has ever set foot on the Forest proper.

* * *

I HAVE come to the conclusion that, if one lives on the borders of the Forest, it is necessary to keep a well-trained cattle or sheep-dog, one who, when the situation demands it—and the situation does demand it at least once every twenty-four hours—will act like those intelligent animals one sees at sheep-dog trials who can put a couple of sheep neatly and quietly through a Maltese cross composed of hurdles. My Scottie is a very brainy fellow, and he has my interests at heart, seeing things entirely from my point of view, but as a cattle dog he is an utter failure. He is even more incensed than am I when straying animals find their way into the garden, and his fury seems to upset his judgment, for, instead of neatly putting the beasts out through the gate again, he turns them back, pursuing them across very damp lawns, through lupin clumps, over onion beds and even across rows of glass cloches. His intentions are wonderful and laudable, but his methods are misguided and the results lamentable.

*Elsa M. Morgan*

AT BRUTON, SOMERSET. A STUDY IN CURVES

IN my Notes recently I have tended to harp somewhat on the topic of lack of lime content in the water of trout streams and lochs, and to complain about the resulting acidity that is a bar to the production of the many insects which figure in a trout's diet, and which are responsible for his condition. This is due, I suppose, to my experiences of many fishing trips to North Wales where the most attractive looking streams and llyns, fed by springs from peaty mountains, never seem to harbour a fish over ¼ lb., except in the sea-trout or sewin season. When, in addition to this, one lives and runs poultry on completely limeless soil, where every other egg produced by the hens has such a fragile shell that it will crumple up in one's fingers, one is apt to get lack of lime on the brain.

I suppose it was to compensate me for my limeless existence, and to demonstrate to me that there is plenty of lime in the British Isles, that I met the mineral in the unmistakable form I did recently. I was fishing for the first time the least known and the least important of the four tributaries of the Avon, the little Ebble, which rises in the upland wilderness of Cranborne Chase and eventually joins the main river south of Salisbury. As there had been heavy rain overnight, and also during the whole of the previous week, there was a risk that the water would be too high and too coloured for successful fishing but, on crossing the stream half a mile above the beat allotted to me, I was relieved to find conditions in every way satisfactory, with the advance guard of the morning mayfly hatch coming down on the surface.

Full of hope I travelled down to my beat, where I found that things were quite different, for there was a strange milkiness in the water which suggested that an upstream local dairyman was washing out his churns. In view of the prevailing shortage of milk, I had hoped that there would not be a large quantity of waste and that the discoloration would be quite temporary, but instead of clearing as I expected, it gradually thickened from the consistency of hand-skimmed, suitable for making the now extinct and much-regretted Blue Vinny cheese, to the full cream content of super T.T. milk reserved for infants and invalids only. At this stage, as fishing was out of the question, I walked up to the top of the beat, where I saw a large water-cress bed in process of preparation, and apparently water-cress is one of the many growths which require lime, for a gang of men were spreading barrow-loads of chalk on the surface and treading it in; and the whole flow of the small Ebble trickled through the crushed chalk. As these conditions were likely to last until the knock-off sounded at 5 p.m. I knocked off early, and returned home with the consolation of knowing that one stream in the British Isles would not be deficient of lime for some time to come.

* * *

IMITATION may be the sincerest form of flattery, but I do not think the British residents are gratified that Egypt has come into line with this country over the question of taxation of whisky and gin, and that one of the great attractions of the Land of the Pharaohs has been annulled. With a duty of approximately 22s. on a bottle, both these spirits are now more expensive in the Nile Valley than they are here, while previously a case of a dozen whisky in Egypt cost only £3 10s. I imagine that the main reason for this great increase in duty—this removal of a link with the past—is that, owing to the passage of time, all the old Pashas and officers of the Egyptian Army, who served in the early days of the occupation, have now died off, and that the rising generation of politicians are not whisky drinkers as were their predecessors.

* * *

AMONG other things we taught the Egyptian Army, when first it was trained by British officers, was the acquisition of a taste for good whisky, and I recall years ago dining with an Egyptian battalion on a guest night when beside every plate at the long table stood a bottle of one of our recognised brands of this spirit—a bottle a man! The officer on my right, a sturdy be-medalled old warrior and major-general of Omdurman days, finished his bottle before the meat course, and when I politely passed him mine to fill a temporary gap he examined the label carefully, and shook his head.

"It is of another variety," he said in Arabic, "and one thing you English taught me was never to mix different kinds of whisky. I must find one of the brand I started with."

* * *

THE supplementation of the chickens' rations with all the waste or surplus products of the garden, which we have been practising for the last five years, has now become more essential than ever if we are to save any of the unhappy fifty per cent. of our poultry stock that has been ruthlessly sentenced to death, without the right of appeal, by the same Minister who some months previously urged us to bring them into the world. A well-known cock-fighter once told me that the ideal ration

for a chicken was one-third corn, one-third palatable greenstuff and one-third meat, preferably in the form of insects, but I do not know if an expert poultry-breeder will agree with this menu. I know the hens do not as, in their opinion, it should be a full hundred per cent. of corn, or corn products, with the green stuff and meat figuring as hors d'œuvres, snacks, savouries, elevenses, or anything else you like to call them, provided they do not count as any part of the proper ration.

* * *

MY hens already eat without much complaint all the outside leaves of cabbages and cauliflower, the thinnings of turnips and carrots, and the run-to-seed brussel sprout and kale plants. The only green stuffs in the garden beyond these are the thinnings-out from the onion bed, great bundles of luscious spring onions, or "chipples," the strong perfume of which makes some husbands most unpopular in the early summer, and may in some cases be responsible for the bed in the dressing room. I know that this vegetable in the green form is a valuable food-stuff as many onion-addict doctors, to justify themselves, have stated that, though it is fifty per cent. water and fifty per cent. smell, the onion also contains proteins, calories and all the vitamins from A to Z. I also know that turkeys appreciate them and will eat any quantity, as one day four of my birds escaped from their pen and dealt with an onion plot, which my gardener in Sinai with the help of ten prisoners had planted out a month previously. It was quite a large plot as, not only had it to produce sufficient onions for our table and that of the servants, but also it supplied all the requirements of the gardener and his innumerable relations, and anyone else who liked to buy a basketful over the garden wall.

* * *

AS four turkeys made a clean sweep of this plot in one morning, I argued that, if a bird so closely related to the hen could eat them voluntarily on this scale, the least my poultry could do would be to consume sufficient to fill up the odd corners of their crops, which Mr. Tom Williams has decreed must be left empty. The first time I offered them chopped "chipples" there was considerable consternation, and I gathered from the cock's remarks that he was giving strict instructions that no hens should touch them as he could not stand the smell. In every poultry run, however, there are individual hens with exploring characters—those that fly over the wire to sample every vegetable in the garden, and which endeavour to look into the future by scratching up seed beds—and one of these after testing a beakful decided that onions were not too bad, and were just edible. The following morning the whole flock partook of the "chipples," having decided presumably after a close stuffy night in the poultry house with an onion-eater that the only possible antidote was to go and do likewise.

* * *

SOME eighteen months ago I wrote in these columns most enthusiastically about a book, which in my case had made life just worth living during a short but most unpleasant dose of bronchitis, an illness which causes one to take a very gloomy view of everything. The book, *The Man-Eaters of Kumaon*, by Jim Corbett, had then just been published in India only, the proceeds going towards a fund for blinded Indian soldiers, and I gathered from a letter I received later from the extremely modest and unassuming author that he was very doubtful if his book was good enough to be printed even in aid of a charity! I have now heard that the book is at last being published in this country by the Oxford University Press and, as my readers in COUNTRY LIFE show a marked desire always to help me in any way, I should like to reciprocate by putting them on to a good thing while the going is good—if it is ever good in the publishing world in these days of continued paper shortage.

# BENGAL KHEDDAH

*Written and Illustrated by* **SIR JOHN BURDER**

IF you turn up your map of India and look for the most north-easterly corner of Bengal, you will find a spot where the mountains of Bhutan come down to the plains and a river divides the provinces of Bengal and Assam. This is the land of great rivers and thousands of acres of flourishing tea estates, where the manager is still father and mother to vast forces of simple labourers and where the nearest European neighbour is many miles away. There, when these great rivers are in flood, the trained elephant is frequently the only means of communication with the outside world and, when the rivers are low, the wild elephant is a constant source of anxiety, such is the damage it causes to houses, fencing, crops and to the tea itself.

The "prescribed rogue" which is a danger to human life may be shot, but the only method of reducing the numbers of others is by the old-fashioned system of holding a *kheddah* and of selling the captives.

There is still a market for elephants and a young, untrained tusker will fetch about £500. The price is influenced by varying factors, but other things being equal, the well-grown *gonesh* (or single tusker) is considered lucky and will realise the highest bid, while the old *dhui* (female that has had a calf) will attract the least attention.

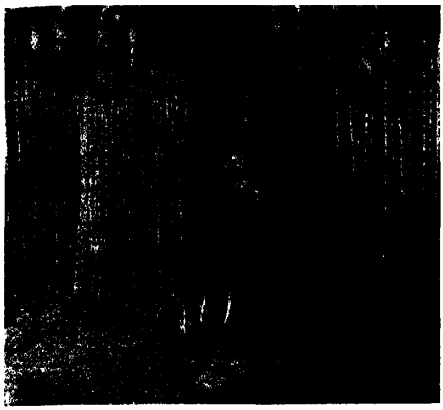
Government decide when a *kheddah* is to be held and call for tenders, to cover the royalty payable on every elephant caught. Thereafter, many weeks of preparation are required: *kheddah-wallahs* have to be engaged for driving the herds, *kunkis* (or tame elephants) with *fundis* (the men trained in roping the wild elephants) must be collected and, finally, the stockade must be built.

The stockade is built by the *kheddah-wallahs* themselves and the place for it is carefully chosen, in a jungle area which experience shows is likely to be within the beat of wild elephants. The jungle is disturbed as little as possible. This in itself is no mean task when one considers the great amount of timber which is necessary to build a circular stockade some 15 ft. high and 40 ft. in diameter. The inside perimeter of the stockade is dug to provide a temporary moat, which soon disappears with the trampling of the catch, but serves as a very valuable obstacle for the brief period which elapses before the captives can be brought under control.

All is in readiness by the earliest days of the cold weather. Meanwhile herds have been located and the *kheddah-wallahs* are free to start the drive. The manœuvring of a herd of elephants requires not only patience but nerve, particularly for the last lap when the elephants have to be stampeded and then brought under control after the stockade gate has closed behind them.

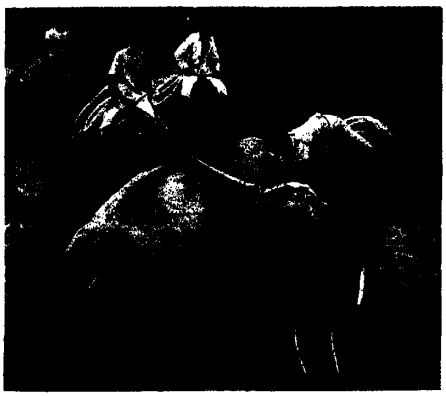
To get a herd into position in front of the wings of a stockade may take many days, perhaps weeks, according to distance and other factors. Wild elephants move only by night and cannot be unduly hurried: at most they can be gently disturbed and induced to move on in the required direction. In the hours of daylight the *kheddah-wallahs* withdraw and as dusk returns they may once more be seen, going out to their appointed positions, quietly to tap the trees and steer the herd towards the trap. Frequent are the disappointments which

THE OUTSIDE OF THE STOCKADE. (*Right*) A YOUNG TUSKER AND AN OLD *DHUI* WAITING THEIR TURN. The *dhui* was set free, as her calf was under 3 feet 6 inches and would probably have died



THE *KUNKIS* ENTER THE STOCKADE

THE *DHUI* PROTECTS HER CALF



ROPING A YOUNG TUSKER

THE CAPTIVE IS DRAGGED AWAY

SPED BY A BOMB TO FREEDOM

THE TUSKER'S TRAINING BEGINS

THE TUSKER'S EARLY STRUGGLES ARE A SAD SIGHT. (*Right*) THE ROPES ARE REMOVED FOR THE FIRST TIME AFTER CAPTURE, AND THE ELEPHANT IS TAKEN FOR A WALK

must be faced: suspicion may send the herd several miles away in the wrong direction: a lone "rogue" may appear to disperse them at a critical moment; these, and other unexpected factors can put back the progress of many nights.

Eventually, however, the great moment comes and a herd is in position, perhaps only a few hundred yards from the mouth of the stockade wings. The wings cannot be seen: they are there as guides to assist in preventing the herd from moving off the intended track. It must be emphasised that they are nothing more than guides, for they would not withstand the determined charge of a single elephant.

The night of the final drive is one of great anxiety, for on its success depend considerable earnings and kudos for all. As before, the night starts with the gradual disturbance of the herd, the object being to start it moving down the required track. When it is clear that the herd is heading in the right direction, the tempo of the drive is increased with a view to giving the elephants less time to think of deviating from the well-defined and easy way.

The speed of the herd increases with the rising commotion in its rear and when the wings are reached, perhaps 100 yards from the stockade gate, a veritable pandemonium ensues. Guns, bombs and drums add to the deafening roar of the *kheddah-wallahs* as they take up the final chase. The herd is stampeded through the great gate of the stockade and the coolest head available, standing on his perilous platform beside the gate, decides the psychological moment to cut the retaining rope. The great gate springs to and the herd is trapped.

Yet is it trapped beyond the possibility of escape? The perimeter moat will temporarily confuse the bewildered herd but the sides will not stand for long and it is essential to keep the elephants away from the walls of the stockade. As the gate springs into position, the *kheddah-wallahs* surround the stockade, setting fire to the circle of stacks which has been prepared beforehand. Every man knows his place and the walls are manned. Each man holds a spike ready to thrust at the trunk of any elephant which comes within reach. The elephant's very existence depends upon his trunk and he will avoid any hazard which is likely to damage this important lifeline. In time he realises that the walls are too great a danger and decides to stay away. From that moment the herd is under control and the *kheddah-wallahs* can say "over to you" to the *fundis*.

Next day the *kunkis* arrive and the work of roping begins. Roping requires both courage and patience, particularly when dealing with a well-grown tusker. It must be remembered that his tusks are long and sharp while those of the tame elephant have been cut short. Further, it is imperative that he be made to keep his trunk down and well away from the men at work. A large elephant will be roped round the neck to a *kunki* on either side, with yet another rope from a back leg to a third tame elephant behind him.

One by one the captives are led out and tied to trees in the training camp. Finally, those that are not considered worth taking are set free and the stockade is repaired for the next drive.

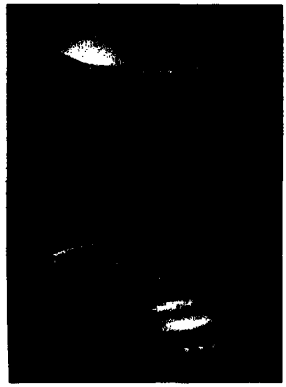
As soon as possible after the capture an auction is held and it is then the responsibility of the buyer to provide a *mahout* whose duty it is to train his charge and take it away.

The earliest days of training are devoted to handling, feeding and watering. From the very beginning the pupil is taken to water twice a day. To start with, these outings are made in close company with tame elephants but after a week or ten days the newly-caught animal may be far enough advanced to make the excursion without the restraining influence of his own kind. In a month or six weeks he should be ready to leave the training camp and start the journey to his new home.

LESSONS ON THE FIRST OUTING. The beast is hobbled behind and the teacher in front carries a spiked pole. (*Right*) THE DAY COMES WHEN ALL ROPES CAN BE DISCARDED. Here the elephant is enjoying a bath

# THE MILDENHALL TREASURE

WHILE ploughing a field at West Row, near Mildenhall, Suffolk, during the winter of 1942-43, Mr. G. Butcher, ploughman to Mr. S. Ford, turned up a hoard of Roman silver which has been described as the finest of its kind to come into the keeping of the nation as treasure trove. The plough was set to work at 10 ins., instead of the customary 6 ins., and the share caught in the foot of the large dish which is one of the items illustrated on this page. Digging disclosed that the dish had been buried on top of a further 33 pieces—including trays, dishes, goblets, finger-bowls and spoons. The British Museum authorities have identified specimens from the collection as late Roman of about A.D. 300 or 400. It is thought that the treasure, the ultimate home of which has not yet been decided, may have been buried by some landowner who feared raids by Picts or Saxons. We hope to publish a more extended article on it at a later date.



(*Above*) A HEAVY WINE CUP

(*Left*) THE NEPTUNE DISH
The item which fouled the ploughshare and led to the discovery. The head of Oceanus in the centre is surrounded by sea-nymphs and sea-monsters, while the outer circle of figures includes Bacchus, Hercules, Satyrs, Pan and Maenads

(*Below*) A COVERED BOWL SURMOUNTED BY A FIGURE HOLDING A CORNUCOPIA

(*Left*) A SHALLOW DISH SKILFULLY ORNAMENTED WITH CLASSICAL FIGURES

(*Below, left*) A HEAVY BOWL, SOMEWHAT EARLIER IN DATE THAN THE REST OF THE COLLECTION, WITH SPOONS AND OTHER ITEMS

(*Below, right*) A HANGING BOWL, FLUTED AND ORNAMENTED, WITH ONE OF FOUR ALEXANDRINE BOWLS IN THE COLLECTION

# AN ESSEX MARSH-KEEPER'S STORY

By J. WENTWORTH DAY

WE sat on the sea-wall in the long, hot grass. A mother-of-pearl sea shimmered landward. It shoaled into a green shallow where samphire stood tall and delicate as china and where little crabs scuttled. Red pods of suæda floated into a tide-verge of stranded bentles*, sea-lavender stalks, sun-dried and whitened crab-shells, bits of cork, gulls' feathers and the white down from sea-going swans' breasts. The saltings make a bay at the head of Pennyhole Creek, and from the shore of that little bay you can look clear out to sea—straight past the tall spar where the mud goes shelving out in a submarine peninsula which the Danes christened the Naas.

They made their war-camp over there on the left, where Mersea Island rises, bluff-bowed with trees, from out the flat sea. They held that windy isle for a hundred and twenty-three years—from 893, after Alfred had defeated them in Kent, until 1017, when Canute became King of all England after the death of Edmund Ironside. Not until 1066 did Danish sovereignty cease on this sea-isle. Their longships, raven-headed, lay in these shining creeks, shield-hung sides rising gently on the swell of the tide. After them the Mersea smugglers made lawless and unwritten history on these waters where, to-day, red-sailed smacks built in Mersea shipyards glide down channel or fowlers go stealthily, low on the water, in grey punts like sliding shadows in the moons of winter.

The tide shone, green and blue, across the mile of June seas between our little bay and Mersea shore. Cottages ashore slept snug and red-roofed in the heat. The square, grey-white church tower with its bands of red Roman brick overlorded all—cottages and oyster-sheds, the rustling poplars with turning faces of silver and the flat sea.

Behind us the long prairie of Old Hall Marshes melted into a far, faint background of upland corn and elms. Pennyhole Fleet, a blue arm of water, fringed with files of green reeds, snaked into the middle distance where the old red decoy cottage stood lonely, a forlorn and crooked sentinel, by the twisted thorn-trees and rustling reeds of the decoy pond. A thousand sheep baa-ed in that unending monotone of the marshes. And on the shining fleet gulls bickered, a shell-duck laughed and mallard rose and flew like hock-bottles on wings.

Neither man nor dog nor boy nor human sound broke that level scene of silent sea and heat-hazy marsh. Even the two patrol boats in Mersea Quarters, one black and squat and ugly, the other silver-grey and sinister, swung at anchor, reft of life and sound.

The gun-barrels were hot to the hand. Sand-hoppers sprang on to the stock with automatic quickness and as quickly off again.

"Been some rum old goin's-on up these here cricks and on this owd marsh," said Fell. John Fell is brown and eagle-like, with a pair of far-away, sea-blue eyes, a crouching, swinging gait that will cover twenty miles like silk, a back to carry weights that would pull down lesser men and an eye and a tongue for the rare fowl of marsh fleet and tide-line. He can shoot like a cock angel, run like a hare and fight any man who asks for it. He is as gentle with animals as he is with children, who adore him. But if a marsh bull comes up at a trot with an ominously straight tail stuck out behind him the gun is cocked and the bull had better look out. One bull was shot on the marsh as it charged. That was in Old Fell's day, after the farmer had been warned that if he did not keep it under control the result would be drastic.

"Otters, now," said John, as we sat on the sea-wall, with the gulls quarrelling on the tide edge and all the flats shining like opals. "Otters. I've laid in those reeds an' watched the young playin' like kittens in the water, goin' head-over-heels down the bank, pushin' each other under an' boxin' each other like tomboys. Mother would pop up now, and then with an eel an' whistle to 'em—just like a train whistle in the distance—an' then there'd be a rare scramble an' spittin' an' scratchin' before they settled down to feed. No, I never shoot 'em. We can spare the seals, an' I like watchin' 'em."

Here is no patroller of warm inland wood and comfortable, pocket-handkerchief meadow, no rearer of chicken-like pheasants, but a man whose life is lived in combat with sea-wind and wild weather. His charges are the wariest birds that fly, their domain the lonely half-land of marsh and salt lagoon, of winding sea-wall and salting, the land of clanging geese and creeping tides.

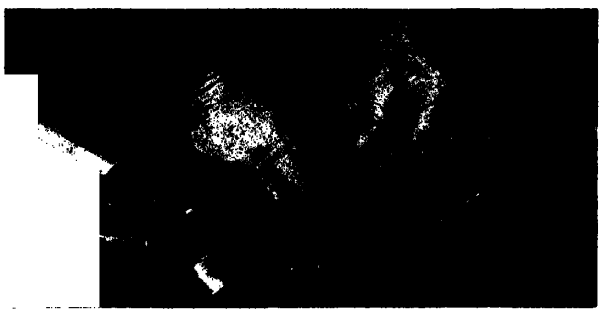
This marsh which I have tenanted for blissful winters is a place of wild duck and snipe, of the short-eared owl and the carrion crow, the grey plover and the fluting whimbrel. We have seen the bittern and the stork and blessed the day, and as for that lordly pirate the peregrine, we let him have his fling just as we spare the marsh- and hen-harriers on their rare and noble quarterings of the marsh. They, with the herons blown like great grey wisps across the North Sea sky, and the short-eared owls which come like eagles in autumn, are altogether too Old English, too mediæval in their ancient heritage of beauty, too rare in a world of commonplace murder, for us to shoot them. What if they do take a few ducks or an odd young rabbit, or if the herons do fill their gullets with silvery young eels from the marsh fleets? We can spare them. But we could ill-spare the sight of such winged beauty as you would not see on another marsh in a hundred harvest moons.

Shooting tenants may come and go. The estate may change hands again and again, as it has done. Poachers are born and die, but John Fell and the wholesome respect for his name endure. "They can't bribe owd Felly, boy! He hulled a man in the fleet once what offered him half a dollar," said a village ancient, with emphasis.

The marsh is a half-land betwixt sea and land; a land of winding fleets and singing grasses bleached by salt winds; a land of snaky dykes and snipe-haunted, quaking bogs, wherein a man may sink and disappear for good; a place of banging great hares and weeping plover; of duck sibilant in the dawn and geese cronking in the snow mist; of snipe bleating on the easterly gales and curlew wailing. It is the home of the heavy-winged carrion crow and the hen-harrier, questing like a hound on wing. Old, bent thorn-trees shadow the decoy pond with its eight pipes and its memories of vast hauls of dun-birds and cartloads of widgeon. The bull roams its windy wastes, and sheep make mournful music. There are garganey, small and delicate, nesting on its fleets, and on sweet May mornings the titterel—that lovely marsh name for whimbrel—flute up its creeks.

It is houseless, but for that lone, red decoy-man's hut, and the nameless, historyless Georgian bricks and thin tiles of the vanished house, whose foundations faintly scar the grass by the counter-bank, where Pennyhole Fleet meets Pennyhole Bottom. Once there was a

JOHN FELL



SETTING A SNARE—FIST HIGH FOR A RABBIT AND TWO FISTS HIGH FOR HARE

* Sea-asters.

gullery, a few short years ago—a screaming, whirling-winged, cackling multitude of black-headed birds nesting in the reeds of that ten-acre lagoon which is the Bottom. But the Bottom has been dry these last three summers. Sheep walk its cracked red bed, wandering that small desert like woolly Bedouins.

Fell has watched the schools of porpoises playing under the September moon, jumping high out of the water and falling back with reports like cannon-shots. "Sink a boat they would, if they hit it. . . ."

And he has seen, winter after winter for sixty years, the wild geese come and go in their clanging thousands, heard the springtime carillon of the redshank ringing their million bells, and seen the coots, massed in hundreds on the big pool, dive like a flash in unanimous confusion and throw up a mighty sheet of spray which confounded even the peregrine falcon when he swooped from the clouds like a thunderbolt at eighty miles an hour.

And as for the mere figures of record bags, were there not the epic ten mornings when that gallant soldier and great gentleman, the late Brig.-Gen. Sir Raul Champion de Crespigny—"Crawley" to us who knew and loved him—shot here, with Sir Mathew Wilson and the Hon. Freddie Cripps, no fewer than 1,637 duck! All wild birds, too—no hand-reared, artificial nonsense.

Fell was born on the marsh, in the house where Fells had lived for a century. "And I hope I die here, sir. Bury me under the sea-wall where I can hear the birds and I'll be happy. London's not our country!"

It was an earthy youth with, as he says, "Me hair stickin' out o' the crown o' me hat, me toes an' heels stickin' out o' me boots, and me belly allus ready for grub. I roughed it, an' I'd do it again. That's the way to live long. I'm goin' on to me hundred, God willin'. Look at me owd dad. He lived till eighty-six an' then he didn't die. He jist pined away 'cos he couldn't git down on that owd marsh any more. Teeth as sound as gravestones, too. Plenty o' fresh grub an' vegetables out o' your own garden an' no tinned muck. An' keep on a'goin'! That's the way to live long. I can run a mile now."

Fell has a fine Saxon disregard for all fancy titles, an immemorial native judgment of the right form of address and courtesy for man or woman. He does not raise his hat. He doffs it. "I give 'em my salute and that's enough for any man, I reckon."

Never in all the long procession of peers and others who have shot the marsh has he addressed a man other than as "sir." There is the root of English address—"sire."

"We've had a tidy few lords on this marsh time and agen, an' I got on well with all on 'em. But there was one lord had a farm not far from here—you knew him. An' he told his foreman that 'sir' wasn't good enough for him. He had to be 'my lorded.' I said 'sir' was good enough for me and I didn't know no lord but One up above, an' he'd got wings on!"

Old Fell, his father, came here as a young, fierce man, fresh from the Crimean War. He was the sort needed then to repel the night-and-day forays of the rough, marsh-prowling fishermen-gunners of Mersea and Tollesbury, in whom ran the blood of Nelson's warriors, of Georgian smugglers and Elizabethan privateersmen, of Dutch seafarers and Huguenots. Hard of mind and body, they cherished the freedom of gunning afloat on salt water. To them this great marsh, won by mediæval drainers from the sliding tides, was no-man's land.

But when Old Fell was keeper and when Jonathan May, who followed him, was a power among the lawless ones, and when young Fell—for John is still young and gay of heart at sixty-five—followed old Jonathan, the gulls nested. Their eggs, laid by the thousand in the reed-beds and on the quaking tussocks, drew the lawless ones of Mersea and Tollesbury, who in their punts slid over the chuckling tide and stole up the creeks by night to rob the myriad nests.

"Yes, I sat under this blessed owd wall one May morning about tew o'clock—quiet as a mouse—and starlit, with the tide a-flowin," said John Fell in a slow voice, as a man who might wake echoes, "and I seed tew punts come in the mouth of the crick from Mersea, full o' men.

"They had great wicker baskets big enough to hold hundreds o' eggs. I laid still, me an' me owd dog, an' watched 'em. Often enough I've laid out on this wall o' nights, quiet as a dead man—jest a-watchin'. One night a rabbit come and set up on his hind legs and looked me and me owd dog in the eye as straight as a judge—not three feet off. I never moved, an' no more did me owd dog. He knowed me too well to move till I gave the signal. An' that rabbit looked us over for two or three minutes reckoned we was wood, kicked his heels and went on a-feedin'.

"Well, this night them tew punts come right up to the wall. The men landed an' I peeked over the wall and stood up as they was a-unloadin' the baskets.

"'Well, boys, goin' a-birds'-nestin'? says I.

"'Blest if that ain't owd Felly,' sings out one o' 'em. 'Why ain't yew abed? 'Tain't decent bein' up gallivantin' this time o' night.'

"'I should be, boy, if it weren't for chaps like you,' says I. 'You may lay that. Now what are you goin' ter do?'

"'Well, we all sets down on the wall an' has a talk, an' I tells 'em that if they gits in their punts an' goes off home I'll say no more about it. Don't, I'll have 'em all up to Witham.* Well, believe me, away they goes, quiet as quiet, an' one on 'em sings out as they rows off: 'I'll send you a sleepin' draught, owd mate, soon! I'm wonderful fond o' a mess o' gulls' eggs for me tea!'

"But there, they ain't so bad, them boys. They like a bit o' sport like the rest on us, an' they'll dare anything. When I see 'em a-layin' out in their punts all weathers an' creepin' up cricks in the snow an' rain an' setting out half the night in mudholes full o' frost, I reckon they deserve every duck they get.

"But my father lived in bad times an' among bad men, some on 'em. They'd black their faces like niggers an' come over here, punt-loads on' em, an' fight the keepers—me dad and owd Willsheer what worked under him—an' git their guns an' threaten to shoot 'em. Plenty of bloody snouts there was on this marsh!

"That got so bad me dad an' owd Willsheer made a dummy man out o' rags and sticks, put a hat an' coat on it, an' taught a great black rough owd retriever dog to rend it. He'd go for that dummy like a bull, growlin' an' springin' at it, an' hev it down an' rend it to bits.

"One night Dad an' owd Willsheer set under the wall up Quinces Corner on Salcott Channel. Along comes a gang o' Mersea boys in a punt. They could see 'em paddlin' along in the moonlight. They gets ashore, an' as soon as they crossed the wall Dad lets go of the black hound. Off he goes, quick as death, racin' along in the shadow o' the wall. He was on them chaps afore they seed him an' lep at one man wi' a roar like a bull. They shruk out an' fit† the dog off an' ran for the punt wi' the dog arter 'em an' the keepers tearin' up the wall in the moonlight, hollerin' as they knowed 'em an' would hev 'em all up to Witham.

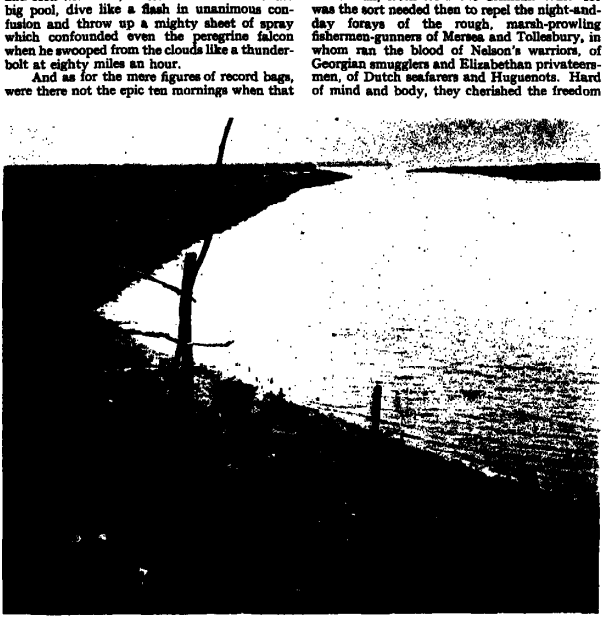
"Them chaps was mortal afraid of that dog—Felly's Black Hound they called him—an' they piled in an' rowed off. But as they got clear off the mud one chap shouts: 'I'll shoot you, you ——!'

"He grabs his gun an' he'd a' let fly—but he got the muzzle in the water as he pulled it out from under the gunwale, an' 'bang!' off that goes under water! Burst the barrel open all up one side an' very nigh paralysed that fellow's arm an' hand. Lord, he did holler! That cured he o' shutin' at folks."

The tide was flowing rapidly now. Saltings and sea-lavender were going under. Only the tops of samphire showed like cactus spikes, with here and there a clump of bentles sticking up. Curlew were moving all over Shingle Head in grey clouds, and an oyster-catcher came flying low in towards Pennyhole. That clear, high whistle over the water took me back to enchanted summer days in Mull and Wester-Ross, when they piped up the lonely beaches of Loch Scridain and whistled in Gruinard Bay and on all the Summer Isles, lonely with sheep.

"Ah! an olive," said Fell. "Don't see many on 'em here nowadays. Used to breed on Bulls Beach up the river opposite Osea, jest as the terns used to breed on Peldon and Feldy marshes, an' the avocets on this marsh. I never shoot an olive!"

He did not say why, but by some dim, inherited memory he had used, as do all marshmen, the old Saxon name, "St. Olave's bird," and by some memory from a thousand years ago he had always held his trigger-finger from the saint's holy bird.



JOHN FELL ON THE WATCH BY ONE OF THE MARSH CREEKS

* Meaning the local police court. † Fought.

# FURNITURE AT MONTACUTE

By CHRISTOPHER HUSSEY

THE reopening of Montacute, which took place on July 20, represents a new departure by The National Trust. The great Somersetshire house has now been furnished with a remarkable loan collection, predominantly of the period, so that this masterpiece of Elizabethan architecture is becoming a museum of 16th- and 17th-century art. At present only the seven principal rooms are furnished, but the quality of their contents more than compensates for the limitation, and it is hoped to open more as additions accrue. Indeed it has only been possible to achieve so much, so soon after the ending of the war-time requisitioning of the house and in face of the present difficulties in getting any redecorations done, owing to the generous response by owners of works of art to the appeal by the Chairman of the National Trust.

Montacute, so called by its Norman possessor from the sharp pointed hill overlooking the place (and on which he proceeded to build a castle), is a particularly pretty village, its houses mostly dating from the seventeenth century and built of the same golden Ham Hill stone as the great house. In addition it contains an exceptionally handsome church and the gatehouse of the priory founded in 1102 by the Norman lord of Montacute, the Earl of Mortain. Thus there is much for the visitor to enjoy and, possessing at it does several excellent inns, Montacute is an ideal centre for those intending to explore one of the most picturesque and traditional parts of England. Glastonbury and Wells, Sedgemoor, Central Dorset, Sherborne, and such great houses as Brympton D'Evercy, Ford Abbey, and Barrington Court (another property of the National Trust), lie within easy reach.

THE GARDEN FRONT AND FORECOURT BALUSTRADE

OAK CUPBOARD, covered with Renaissance Ornament. L. 5 ft. 1½ ins. H. 5 ft. About 1540

The house was begun in the year of national deliverance 1588 by Edward Phelips, a successful lawyer coming of a local family. The plan is among those contained in the architect John Thorpe's MS. book, and the evidence points to Thorpe having supplied the upright of the main elevation as well. This, with its ranges of immense mullioned windows, those of the long gallery at the top separated by statues of the Nine Worthies, and the garden houses and temples adorning the forecourt enclosure, have a beauty and refinement not found by any means in all Elizabethan buildings. Then, in 1786, the builder's descendant, with most unusual appreciation of historic architecture, bought, in order to preserve, and re-erected against the west front of Montacute, the façade of Clifton Maybank House, built in Henry VIII's reign a few miles away over the Dorset border. It is these two fronts, both of the finest quality although so different, and perhaps both built by a mason father and son, that make the house of such exceptional architectural importance.

Montacute remained in the possession of the Phelips family, though let for a time after the 1914-18 war to Lord Curzon, till fifteen years ago when, at the instance of the late A. R. Powys of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, it was acquired by an anonymous donor and presented to that Society, which shortly afterwards transferred possession to the National Trust. From the outset it was felt that the almost entire absence of appropriate contents militated against the property maintaining itself financially, besides constituting a waste of space potentially valuable for cultural and educational purposes. This problem was still under consideration when, with the outbreak of war, Montacute was taken over by the Ministry of Works for the storage of treasures from the Victoria and Albert Museum, which provided for the careful maintenance of the structure. Meanwhile a committee was formed under Sir Geoffrey Hippisley Cox to arrange for the use of the house, with Lord Aberconway to advise on the care of the famous garden and Mr. H. Clifford Smith on the collections.

Among the first accessions were the remarkable Jacobean bedstead of 1612, presented by Mr. J. C. B. Gamlen, and a set of six William and Mary walnut armchairs, originally at Montacute, lent by Commander H. Phelips, illustrated in COUNTRY LIFE January 4, 1946, and July 20, 1945, respectively. Most recent has been the offer on loan by the Earl of Crawford of a selection from his highly important collection of Old Master paintings. Meanwhile, Mrs. Trafford, of Hill Court, Ross-on-Wye, had lent as many pieces as the Committee required from the exceptional collection of oak furniture formed by her father, the late Alfred Moffatt, at Goodrich Castle, Herefordshire.

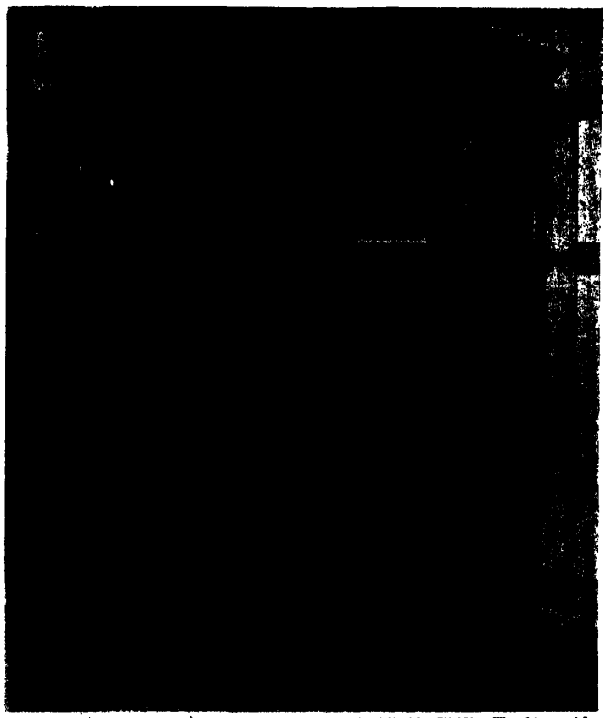
This collection, comprising many pieces of the first importance in their class, as well as a set of superb Brussels tapestries, goes far, with various family pictures, and handsome carpets etc. lent by the Victoria and Albert Museum, towards furnishing Montacute, partly as a great country house of its period, but suggesting also gradual accessions by each generation.

The Moffatt collection is notable as having been largely formed in the '70s and '80s when it was possible for the knowing collector to pick up things of note for, to modern notions, ridiculous prices. Thus the very exceptional oak cupboard of about 1540 (Fig. 2), the front panels carved with masks in roundels and other Early Renaissance motifs, was bought in about 1880 during a Sunday walk near Oxford. Mr. Moffatt noticed a farm wagon loaded with the possessions of a labourer, the legs of the cupboard sticking out at the top. "I got the owner to stop," he has recorded, "while I climbed up to investigate. He had no regard for it, and I promptly bought it." While the elegance of the decorations and presence of a middle tier of drawers evidently connects it with Flanders, the joinery has warranted it being regarded as an exceptional if not unique English piece.

In the oak court cupboard (Fig. 4) the medallion motif survives, diminished, on the upper doors while cornice and supports are elaborately carved. The frieze panels represent field sports—dogs chase deer and hare, or bait a bull, men shoot birds with bow and arquebus. The supports are formed of four crouching figures, back to back and playing musical instruments. Regarded as an early Elizabethan piece, most unusual in its enrichments, it was bought near Canterbury for £70 in 1882. Three other court cupboards, of more conventional design but fine quality, are unquestionably English work, while two others, definitely Flemish, support the ascription of Figs. 2 and 4 to English joiners by their clear differences in design and treatment. Incidentally, the vigorous realistic carving of Fig. 4 is similar in character to the village scene in plaster relief which decorates the dais end of the hall at Montacute and of which the English origin has never been questioned; and the ornament of Fig. 1 is comparable to that of the Clifton Maybank façade.

The oak table (Fig. 3), now in the hall at Montacute, was bought in Hereford in 1890 for £60, and was probably made there about 1630. It was designed to stand against a wall, the frame being carved on only three sides, and originally had end extensions, the holes for which remain. The carved bulbous legs and excellent condition of the table make it an outstanding thing of its kind and a notable ornament of its new home.

OAK TABLE. L. 11 ft. 1½ ins. H. 2 ft. 10 ins. W. 2 ft. 5½ ins. *c.* 1630.



OAK COURT CUPBOARD, WITH EXCEPTIONAL DECORATION. The frieze with sporting scenes, the supports formed of four crouching figures. L. 5 ft. H. 6 ft. 4 ins. *c.* 1570

*Three outstanding pieces from the late Alfred Moffatt's collection, lent by Mrs. Trafford to Montacute*

*OLD TOWNS RE-VISITED—XVII*

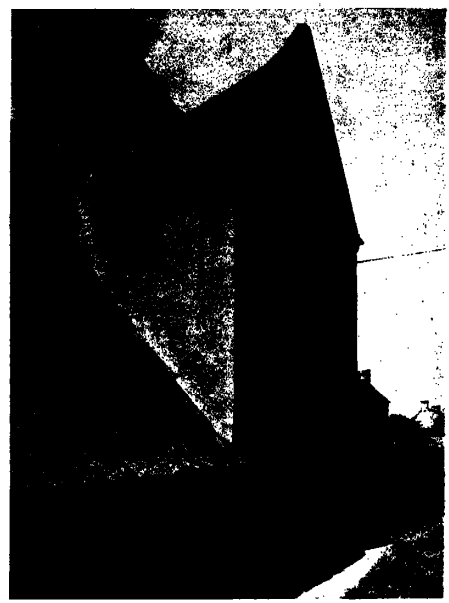
# BAMPTON, OXFORDSHIRE—II

***Until 1845 Bampton was unique in having three vicars. Their vicarages, the Deanery and the old grammar school form a miniature close grouped around the fine church, the presentation of which has belonged to the Dean and Chapter of Exeter for nearly 900 years.***

**By ARTHUR OSWALD**

MOST of the church spires of England are to be found rising out of flat country, as though the dwellers in those regions sought some compensation for the absence of heights from their habitual horizons. Oxford, before the towers of Merton and Magdalen were thought of, had the spires of St. Frideswide and St. Mary, and as you work your way westward along the valley of the upper Thames, Witney, Bampton and Lechlade carry on the succession, with Burford an outlier on the Windrush among the dying ridges of the Cotswolds. At Bampton the church spire is not only a landmark in the level countryside and a focus from almost any part of the little town, but it also forms the pivot round which a group of houses are disposed very much in the manner of a cathedral close. This secluded precinct, with its extensive graveyard, its tall trees and pleasant gardens, comprises the Deanery, the three vicarages (for Bampton in the past boasted three vicars), and the old grammar school, while a little farther to the north, in tree-girt grounds of its own, stands the manor house. The whole ensemble perpetuates an association nearly nine hundred years old between the church of Bampton and the Dean and Chapter of Exeter, who here had a manor within a manor, still visibly suggested by this enclave of church property within the confines of the town.

The connection with Exeter goes back before the time of Domesday Book, which records the six hides in *Bentone* which the Bishop held of the King. Exeter replaced Crediton as the see of the south-western diocese as a result of the energetic action of Bishop Leofric, and it was he who gave the church of Bampton to the chapter, obtaining a charter from the Conqueror confirming the gift in 1069. Leofric, who had been one of Edward the Confessor's clerks and was the first Chancellor of England to be so styled, had probably been granted the estate by the King. But Domesday Book only has the bald statement: "Bishop Levric held it." In the charter of King William, however, the six hides are called "the land which King Eadwic gave to the saint and the community at Bampton," a phrase which, Professor Stenton has suggested, may record the endowment of a local "minster" at a time before the organisation of parishes as we know them, when large districts were served by groups of priests living together in a community. In Lambourn, Aylesbury, St. Mary's, Reading and Sonning he sees other instances of these Saxon "minsters" (which were not necessarily monasteries) founded by kings or bishops on their larger estates. Bampton, we saw last week, was a royal manor and a hundred town; it had a market in the Conqueror's time; in fact, the indications are that it was a place of some importance even before Oxford was of any account.

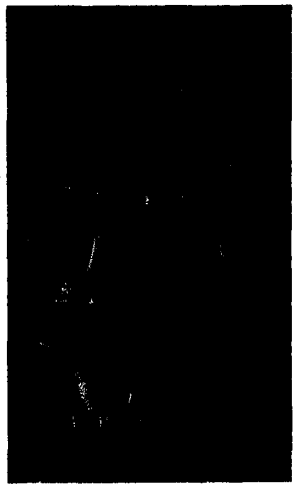


2.—THE GABLED PORCH OF THE SCHOOL HOUSE, RISING TOWER-LIKE OUT OF A GREAT SWEEP OF ROOF

Until a century ago, when new churches were built at Aston and Lew, the parish covered more than 10,000 acres, and in early times it was probably larger still. The fact that the adjoining villages of Clanfield, Standlake and Yelford paid dues to Bampton, points to their having been at one time chapelries of the mother church. It is possible that the unique arrangement of the three vicars or portionists of Bampton was a survival of the old community system and went back to Saxon times; it certainly existed in the thirteenth century, when two of the rectorial portions were re-formed to provide three vicars instead of two, but it is possible that the third rectory, which was annexed to the chapter of Exeter, had supported a third vicar at an earlier period. The arrangement may have been retained on account of the numerous hamlets in the wide-spreading parish. Divided from Bampton itself only by the Highmoor Brook is the hamlet of Weald, where Aymer de Valence built his castle. To the east are Aston, Coate and Brighthampton, Coate containing the old manor house of the Hordes, which was illustrated in these pages last month. Lew lies northward on the road to Witney, and beside the Thames are Rushey, Chimney and Shifford, the last having a chapel of its own.

The three vicars, at least after the Reformation, evolved a comfortable system, whereby each was on duty for only four months in the year, until this easy-going arrangement was upset by a conscientious incumbent, who took the matter to the courts, and a rota of duty every third week was substituted. There were times when two portions were held by the same man, and many of the vicars in the bad old days being

1.—THE OLD SCHOOL HOUSE IN CHURCH STREET. A COTSWOLD BUILDING OF 1650



pluralists were non-resident. But, resident or not, each vicar had his vicarage, situated (wisely, perhaps) on different sides of the church, north, south and east. Two mediæval vicars, Master Thomas Plymmyswode (presented 1401) and that "venerable and scientific man," Master Robert Holcot (1500) are commemorated by brasses in the church. One of the three vicarages was the birthplace of John Phillips, author of "The Splendid Shilling," which Addison called "the finest burlesque poem in the British language"; he also wrote a poem on "Cyder" in imitation of The Georgics. His father was one of the Bampton vicars. Like Keats, he died young, a victim of consumption.

The church and what we may call its close lie in the north-west sector of the town. From the Market Place, where the three main streets converge, Church Street leads off northward, forming a pretty approach with the old grammar school building standing at a corner on the left (Fig. 1). The school was founded under the will of Robert Vesey of Chimney, who died in 1635, but the first schoolmaster was not appointed until 1653. In the interval the school house of clean "Ashleane worke," to use the words of the contemporary document, was erected at a cost of £100—a charming little Cotswold building, which harks back to Tudor traditions of stonework in its arch-headed mullioned windows and its doorways of flattened four-centred form. Fig. 2 shows the three-storeyed gabled porch and the great sweep of Cotswold roof out of which it springs tower-like on the north side.

As at Witney and Burford, the church is a cruciform building with central tower and spire rising above aisles, transepts and chapels, which have been pushed out at various dates (Fig. 5). The main reconstruction took place about 1270, but in the tower piers and arches portions of the eleventh

(*Top Left*) 3.—ST. STEPHEN'S (THE OLD ASTON VICARAGE) AND THE CHURCH SPIRE

(*Top Right*) 4.—ENGLISH BAROQUE. Wall tablet to Barbara Hordo (died 1671)

(*Right*) 5.—THE CHURCH FROM THE SOUTH-WEST

6.—THE DEANERY. A mediæval building reconstructed early in the seventeenth century

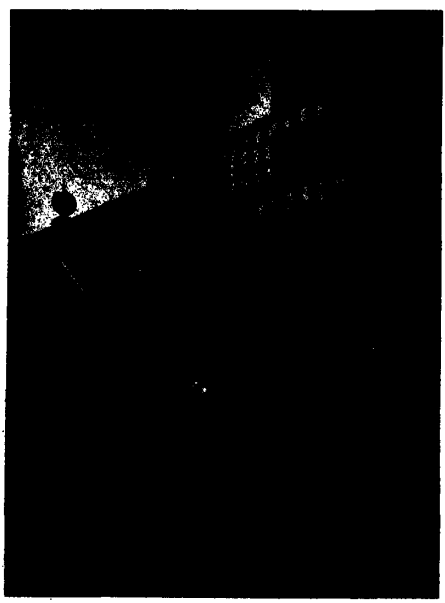
century church remain. On the broach spire carved figures of saints stand out at the four corners on tall clustered shafts; they are in a remarkable state of preservation considering that they have stood on their elevated perches exposed to rain, wind and frost for close on seven hundred years. The great treasure of the church is its carved stone altarpiece of the fourteenth century with figures of Our Lord and the twelve apostles—a very remarkable survival. The connection with Exeter appears in the choir stalls and misereres where the arms of the see are carved and the initials T H, probably for Thomas Harris, Precentor of Exeter (1509-11). The chapel on the south side of the chancel became the burial place of the Hordes of Coate. The tablet to Barbara, the first wife of Thomas Horde, with its four *putti* worked into a vigorous baroque design, is of a type that appears at Oxford, in the cathedral and elsewhere, and is therefore probably the work of an Oxford statuary (Fig. 4).

Of the three vicarages two have become private houses since the re-arrangement of just over a century ago, when Lew and Aston acquired churches of their own. All three are old buildings which have undergone alterations at various dates and been given a Georgian dress. The Lew vicarage lies to the south of the church. The Aston vicarage, east of the church, now known as St. Stephen's, appears on the left of Fig. 3. It contains a good Georgian staircase and has a three-sided bay at its north end, added about 1730. On one of the crown glass panes in the first floor bedroom of this bay, a love-sick swain has scratched the words

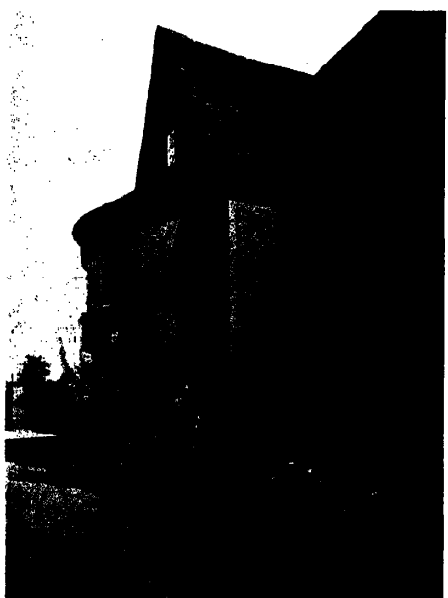
Dearest of my Desires
Charming Betsy Colleton.

Alas! her charms have vanished with all but her name. The northern vicarage remains in use. To the street it presents a plain Georgian front with a hipped roof. A long wing runs back northward with the pot-bellied bow projecting below a gable on the west side (Fig. 8). As in many of the houses in this part of Oxfordshire, the rough stone walls are covered with rough-cast. Adjoining the vicarage to the east is an old house about which Dr. Plot tells a curious story. It belonged to some people called Wood, who were forewarned of impending deaths in the family by mysterious knockings. Hauntings continued under later owners, until one of them replaced the old roof with a new one, which proved fatal to the ghost.

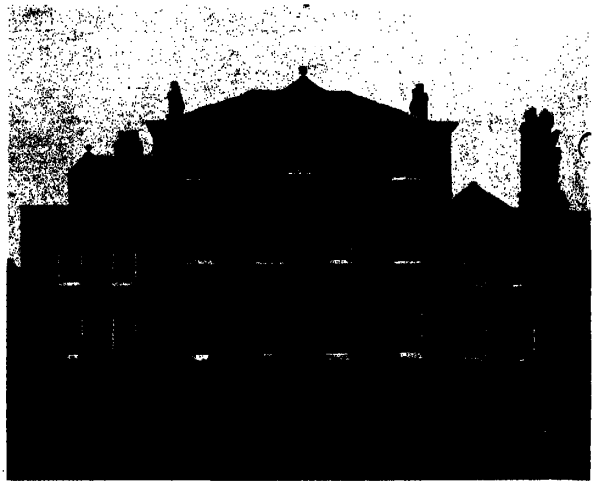
Bampton Deanery, or Deanery Farm (Fig. 6), is the most interesting of this group of houses. It stands immediately west of the churchyard and is of mediæval origin, as the buttresses projecting from its east and north wings disclose. Bampton never had a dean, and the house was probably the bailiff's house of the dean and chapter of



7.—STAIRCASE IN THE DEANERY



8.—GABLE AND BOW OF THE BAMPTON VICARAGE



9 and 10.—THE MANOR HOUSE. (*Left*) THE GOTHIC PORCH ON THE SOUTH FRONT; (*Right*) THE EAST FRONT

Exeter, although it may have also been used to accommodate the dean or his representative when visiting their Bampton manor. The original house was in the form of the letter L with the arms pointing north and east. To this in the sixteenth century was added the wing with the gable seen on the left of Fig. 6; it contains a parlour with a ceiling of massive timbers. The whole house was largely reconstructed early in the seventeenth century, when the mullioned and transomed windows were inserted and a cross gable built in the east wing. There are several stone fireplaces of this date, including one in the outside wall of the north wing, which must have been extended at this time, though the addition has since been destroyed. Further additions to the west were made about 1800 and in 1921. The most notable feature of the interior is the late 17th-century staircase with its twisted balusters and ball-topped newels going up in wide flights in the centre of the house (Fig. 7).

The manor house of the Deanery manor wears a Georgian appearance (Fig. 10), but it incorporates an older, perhaps Elizabethan, building in its walls. In the middle of the eighteenth century the manor was held on lease by Gascoyne Frederick, whose name appears on the stables with the date 1755. He was probably responsible for the tall Georgian centre to the east front. After his death Whitakers succeeded, and it was to Frederick Whitaker that Dr. Giles dedicated his *History of Bampton* a century ago. The main entrance is in the centre of the south side under a "Gothick" porch on clustered columns (Fig. 9). The ground floor room at the south-east angle is well panelled with early 18th-century woodwork (Fig. 11). To frame the fireplace in a pilastered composition with a Doric entablature was a favourite treatment of the Bristol joiners of the time, although Oxford would have been a much nearer centre to Bampton than Bristol.

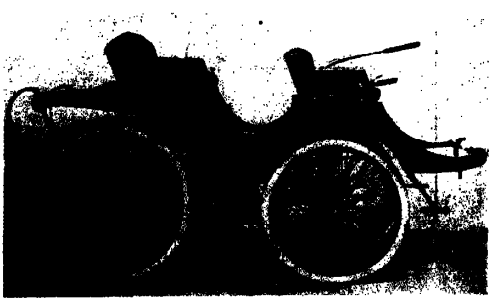
The last photograph (Fig. 12) is of the staircase in Lime Tree House—the house with the shell hood in High Street illustrated a week ago. It is a good example of the mid-Georgian staircase with turned balusters, not unlike the one in St. Stephen's.

11.—EARLY 18th-CENTURY PANELLING IN THE MANOR HOUSE

12.—STAIRCASE IN LIME TREE HOUSE

# FIFTY YEARS OF MOTORING

By J. EASON GIBSON



THE FIRST BRITISH CAR, A LANCHESTER, BUILT IN 1895

AN 1898 BENZ

TO-MORROW in Regent's Park, in the presence of the King and Queen, the motor industries cavalcade will leave on its tour of the metropolis. This cavalcade will inaugurate the celebrations of the industry's jubilee, and will provide the visual evidence of the amazing progress that has been made since 1896, when the industry can be said to have been born. Fifty years ago one factory alone was devoted to the manufacture of cars, and the total number of people engaged in the industry, and allied trades, has been estimated as 200. In 1938, the last year for which figures are available, the figure had risen to 1,385,000; while during the war, when of course the manufacture of cars had ceased, the motor industry was employing 1,116,900 entirely on war work. There can only have been very few, apart from the founders of the industry, who would have had the confidence in the new-fangled horseless carriage in 1896 to forecast such an immense development.

When one remembers the apathy, not to say antagonism, with which the early pioneers were treated both by the man in the street and by the Government, one cannot admire too much their courage and enthusiasm, which overcame all obstacles. Among the cars in the cavalcade will be such cars as Segrave's Golden Arrow, Cobb's Napier-Railton, the 1908 Austin, victorious in the Dieppe races; the 1911 Rolls-Royce which swept all before it in repeated Alpine Trials; and early Napiers and Huttons. There will be many when seeing these brave old cars who will recall the Augustan days of motoring when men like Edge, Jarrot, Newton, and countless others pitted their skill and courage against all comers in the great races of the early days. The cars used then had tyres and brakes, or perhaps I should say a lack of tyres and brakes, that would horrify the modern motorist, but these men hurled them, with careless *élan*, down the dusty tree-lined roads of the Continent in events like the Paris-Vienna, Circuit des Ardennes, and the Gordon-Bennett races. It is interesting to recall that as early as 1902 Napier won for Britain the Gordon-Bennett race, and in 1907 established a 24-hour record that stood for over 17 years. Behind these courageous drivers were figures like Lanchester, Royce, and Austin, whose vision and idealism cannot be praised too highly. That the same high spirit did not die, one need only mention the names of Morris, Segrave, and Cobb.

Great as have been the advances associated with the coming of the motor-car, none can compare with the advances made in the car itself. In the earliest days it was truly described as a horseless carriage, and anyone who has had experience of one of these weird machines will never forget the experience. They were rough, noisy, slow, uncomfortable, and unreliable to an extent that would not be believed by a modern youth. In the short space of fifty years we have grown accustomed to the modern car, swift, smooth, speedy, and, above all, reliable.

The contribution of the motor industry to the national life should not be gauged solely by the number of men employed, great as that figure is, for there are many other factors to remember. During the year 1938 the Exchequer benefited to the extent of £57,000,000 in vehicle tax and fuel duties alone. This heavy burden has had its effect on design, and the largest proportion of cars built in this country are of necessity small horse-power, with a consequent hampering effect on the overseas trade of the industry. When one recalls the dark days at the start of the war, when our state of unpreparedness was so noticeable, our debt to the motor industry is realised more fully, as there can be little doubt that, more than any other factor, the industry was responsible for changing this condition to that in 1944, when we started sweeping all before us with an armoured might that had never been conceived before.

A jubilee, however, should not just be an occasion merely for complacent self-congratulation, and it is only right to look a little at the other side of the picture. There are those, and not a few, who consider that the present-day leaders of the industry lack the vision and enthusiasm of the pioneers, and are actuated solely by the motive of financial success. This may or may not be true, but an occasion like this would seem to be a good time for a little self-criticism. It is true to say that the founders of the industry realised that their sole justification was their service to the public, and improvements in design were carried out at the dictates of their engineering conscience and not by a whim of fashion. Let us think about this saying of the late Sir Henry Royce: "Whatever is well done, however humble, is noble."

# ON CHOOSING SHOOTS

By CAPTAIN J. B. DROUGHT

THE choice of a shoot presents little difficulty to those fortunate people (if there are any in these days) to whom expense is a secondary consideration. But it becomes a very real problem when, say, twelve to fifteen hundred acres represent the limit of one's financial resources. It is understandable that busy men need all the recreation they can get, but they are often a little unreasonable in their conception of what constitutes a good run for their money. And in consequence syndicate managers are confronted with a pretty riddle in attempting to reconcile demand with supply on this type of shoot, the capacity of which is more easily over-estimated perhaps than any other. In a good year it is big enough to hold a lot of stuff, but at its best it is too small to stand incessant hammering. In fact, without the saving grace of rough ground for pot-hunting, it may be said at once that week-in-week-out shooting is impossible of realisation except at the expense of breeding stocks. What can be done with impunity on big shoots, where beats get intermittent quietude, is inapplicable to acreages comparatively small. For over-shooting is not simply a matter of reducing a stock below the safety margin; constant disturbance is quite as effective in the permanent dispersal not only of game but of wildfowl also.

In local geography, then, lies primarily the answer to the riddle. For, except in the remoter areas of this country there is not a lot of ground, in these days of high farming and "rural development," capable of holding abundant and varied game stocks unless material contribution is made to their assistance. In the home counties, for example, the natural amenities of most shoots demand artificial supplement of more or less expensive nature. Whereas the shoot that you can nibble at the season through is essentially the wild shoot, rather than the sparsely cultivated acreage, on which (especially if boundaries are narrow) you must kill your birds and kill them quick unless you want to make substantial contribution to your neighbour's entertainment. The Welsh and West Country hills and combes serve best, perhaps, to illustrate the land of promise. For in still unspoilt country wild birds thrive with the minimum of assistance, and, beat your coverts never so skilfully, you will not persuade a very large percentage of your pheasants at each time of asking to fly conveniently enough for the average performer to distinguish himself highly.

It may be paradoxical to suggest that the less coverts favour the staging of the "set piece," the more they contribute to consistent sport. But undeniably the greater number of birds that get away, the more there are left for subsequent adventure. And another merit of this type of country is that it consists of coarse grass fields and broken, heathy ground with little cover belts, in which partridges must as often be walked up as driven even late on in the year. Moreover, there is nearly always marshland, which, however limited its acreage, is an incalculable asset to a medium shoot. For, at the minimum of expense, it can be "cultivated" to provide attractive nesting areas for snipe, while natural ponds and bog-holes, ready furnished with aquatic vegetation, not only render the rearing of wild duck an easier and less costly business than that of pheasants, but also form a rendezvous for native birds and migrants later on.

On mixed ground of this kind bags tend to

average out more evenly than on shoots which lend themselves at most to two or three days' walking up, and thereafter must be invariably driven because of the impossibility, in the absence of holding cover, of getting within a hundred yards of anything. There will, of course, be occasions on which the yield seems incommensurate with the energy expended, but, from the purely sporting standpoint, they will be brimful of incident. You may not get a dozen shots at any drive, but most of what you do get will be teasers, when a rocketing snipe joins forces with a pheasant, and a mallard, overhauling a partridge covey as it splits and flattens, gives you an object lesson in relative heights and speeds. And if, as is conceivable and even probable, 70 per cent. of what you see survives, well, so much the better for your future entertainment.

So far as over-all expenses are concerned, it may be urged that game mortality is greater on these heavy soils than in the shooting counties *par excellence*. But, save where excess rainfall is a normal circumstance, I think this disadvantage may be exaggerated. Admittedly a lot depends upon the lie of the ground in respect of its liability to flooding. Even so, the provision of small cultivated "sanctuaries" on high ground is usually effective in persuading nesting birds to avoid danger zones, and reducing the risk of subsequent disaster to the youngsters. Pheasants are *imprimis* birds of marshlands, nor of itself does heaviness of soil affect any game adversely. What does the damage is the combination of cold searching winds with the accentuated clamminess of clays and loams, from which superfluous water does not drain so quickly as from the lighter soils. It is proven beyond question that, suitably assisted, partridges will thrive on any soils which provide requisite sustenance and shelter; moreover, in these remoter districts there is considerably more cultivation and less disturbance than in the over-built areas closer to the heart of things. Of course, they are a long way off, but motors make a mockery of distance nowadays. Scarcely any part of England is too remote for a long-week-ender.

Though I would emphasise that I instance only the far west as illustrative of the *type* of country that is best adapted to providing the maximum of sport at a reasonable cost, you may find the ideal within 80 miles of London, but you will be exceptionally lucky if you do. And a point which may not be irrelevant is this. Broadly speaking, the farther afield you go, the less your rental, and in some respects, your incidentals, and the more then, logically, there is to spend on ground improvement and game propagation. In any place whose natural resources contribute materially to the permanent maintenance (subject always, of course, to seasonal vagaries) of a decent head of game and wildfowl, a man has six to four the better of the brethren who, lacking similar advantages, must needs re-stock more or less completely every year or so. Which must be my excuse for stressing the outstanding contribution that the right type of ground makes to the spread of shooting over a long period.

# SOME MORE AFTERTHOUGHTS

## *A Golf Commentary by* BERNARD DARWIN

I WROTE as it were hot-foot after St. Andrews; in point of fact I wrote in the departing train and in pencil, doubtless to the distress of the printers. But a championship leaves the mind so full of odds and ends that one article will not nearly contain them. So I think I must venture again, this time with a very mixed bag of impressions.

I will begin with a small true story which will, at any rate, I hope, amuse those who know the Old Course and its critics. I had it straight from a friend who came chuckling into the clubhouse direct from the scene of action. A young professional went, as my friend described it, into a prolonged huddle with his caddie on the 16th tee, debating whether to drive safely away to the left or to take the narrow way between the Principal's Nose and the railway. At last he came to his decision—I don't know what it was—and hit his ball bang into the Principal. He threw his club on to the ground and exclaimed: "There's your —— St. Andrews for you! Another perfectly good straight shot bunkered!"

I have often wondered since as to that young man's frame of mind and whether, when he had recovered, he even dimly saw the absurdity of his remark. I rather suspect he did not, and could not, for there are many people whose intellects, if they may so be termed, are permanently warped, as I suppose, by considerations of score, and who continue to say this sort of thing. One distinguished professional player from overseas committed himself this time to three such statements: that the course was "unfair," that the hillock in front of the fourth green was "out of date," and the run-up was "not a golf shot."

What precisely he meant by this last statement must be left to himself to determine. Perhaps if he ever comes back he will be wiser, and it is noteworthy that a much greater golfer than he, Bobby Jones, hated the course on his first visit and came later to love it very much. Another player declared that his impression of the course was just what it always had been, namely that it was one big fluke. It is noteworthy that he did not survive till the last day, and that on a previous occasion he had not qualified. The Old Course seems to know how to repay those who abuse it and fight against it.

* * *

It also knows how to repay those who appreciate its quality and try to master its difficulties. I cannot remember a championship in which the men who were generally recognised beforehand as the likeliest players so clustered at the top of the list: Snead, Locke, Bulla, Cotton, Rees, Ward, von Nida. Those were the first seven names, and if we add perhaps that of Lawson Little (who played very finely on the last day when it was too late), we have those that a competent judge would have chosen before play began. A more entirely satisfactory championship in regard to the best players fulfilling expectations it would be hard to name. I thought Cotton would win, and I wish with all my heart that he or Rees or Ward could have kept the Cup at home, but in a general way it is impossible to deny to the Old Course the credit of bringing the best players to the top.

I said that St. Andrews well repaid those who did not try to fight against it, but rather humoured its idiosyncracies. I thought a very good example was the way in which Cotton played the 17th in his second round of 70. Wanting two fours for a 69, he rather pulled his second and lay with the Road bunker directly between him and the hole. He could no doubt have pitched the shot and would have brought it off nearly every time; he might have got a four, but he knew the bunker and the road beyond, and he was not going to "tease" them, as Willy Smith once called it. He turned his back on the bunker, ran his ball up on to the corner of the green, and was content to get his five. In his fourth round, when things were desperate, he did pitch to the green, for circumstances alter cases.

* * *

That hole reminds me of poor Bulla's catastrophe there. I mentioned it last week, but will do so again since it is put to my purpose. Having gone into the road in his first round, he boldly defied the hole in his next two rounds and hit the ball right up to the green and got a splendid four each time. I had a feeling that the hole would get him yet, and so it did, but not at all in the way I had expected. He took a six in the fourth round, not by going for the green, but by playing safe and short to just the right spot and making a series of almost incredible muddles. It was a horrid thing to see. The Road hole turned traitor and was cruel to one who had been converted to a proper respect for it.

In a general way no doubt the man who means to win a championship must take plenty of risks; if he does not the pace is so hot that he will be left behind. Some people think Rees was wrong in going for the burn with his second shot to the first hole in his fourth round. True, it cost him that dreadful seven and may have cost him the championship, but I would not say he was wrong; it was a legitimate risk to take. To this rule of risks, however, I do think there is one exception: that 17th hole. There a man must take care of the fives and leave the fours to take care of themselves.

* * *

It is always interesting to see on a course that one knows well the lines that distinguished players take at particular holes, lines which may not necessarily be suited to lesser mortals. It is peculiarly so at St. Andrews where there is considerable variety of choice. At the 14th, for instance, a hole which the back tee has made far more formidable than of old, Locke hit his tee shot right away to the left of the Beardies. That little nest of bunkers had cost him an eight in 1939, and he was giving them a wide berth this time.

From the 16th tee the big men whom I watched all took the left-hand line. They could carry the Principal; so that that did not worry them; but they were not going to take any chances with the railway line. At the home hole both Snead and Bulla drove well to the left, almost on the line of the first tee. This they did deliberately since by doing so they could avoid the Valley of Sin or at any rate the deeper parts of it. I need scarcely add, first that they could only do so if the wind was helpful, and secondly that their plan will be of no use for humbler drivers, since to get far enough to avoid crossing that valley means a drive very nearly as long as the length of the hole.

* * *

Of course, my mind is a jumble of fine shots seen, and it is scarcely possible to disentangle or to describe them. A particularly magnificent one was a second shot with a wooden club played up to the fourth hole by Snead in his third round. The tee has gone back a long way at that hole, and he had pulled his drive to the left of all the hills. He was an apparently immense distance from the green, and had a stiff wind on his back. He hit it right home, and I have seen few shots that thrilled me more by their sheer power. Snead was thrilled himself, for on being asked in a wireless interview about the shot, he admitted that he had "blistered that one."

Yet I think the shots that gave me the most intense pleasure were several short pitches played by Cotton. Many fine players can make the ball pitch and stop quickly on the green, but Cotton to my eyes differs from them all. The ball does not seem, as with others, to fizz and bite the turf; rather it falls utterly lifeless on the green like a dead bird or a spent shuttlecock. I am told by one who knows his game well that he has a way of his own of playing this shot, wherein he does all the work with the right hand. I am tempted—but I don't think I shall yield to the temptation—to try to do it on the lawn. At any rate it is the most exquisite shot of a master and unlike anyone else's.

### SONNET

*SO many roads are calling, they invite*
*The traveller to breast another hill,*
*For in the folds of it he surely will*
*Discover the lost gardens of delight.*
*The moonlit roads have lured us in the night,*
*The roads of dawn, their song is never still,*
*But all of them are memories good or ill,*
*They leave a trail of sadness in their flight.*
*O rather beg that by the roads of dream*
*These others you can happily forsake,*
*There you can swim at ease against the stream,*
*There you may travel sleeping or awake,*
*There listen to the bells of Nicodame*
*And in Elysium your siesta take.*

HENRY BAERLEIN.

# CORRESPONDENCE

## TITHE BARNS

SIR,—It is not wholly accurate to describe the largest surviving mediæval barns as "Tithe" Barns, for tithes in kind were collected everywhere, but such barns only occur in certain places. No doubt they were used for the storage of tithe payments, but the large barns such as those mentioned in your issue of July 12 were built at places which were the central points of considerable tracts of monastic estates. They were not meant merely for the storage of tithe goods, but for the entire saleable produce (particularly wool) of the surrounding lands. The goods would thus be stored in safe keeping until they were sold; their purchase price formed a large proportion of the revenue of the abbeys which owned the estates.

To come to the examples quoted, Abbotsbury barn was the chief storehouse for the neighbouring lands of Abbotsbury Abbey. I think I am right in saying that Sturry belonged to the Benedictine Cathedral Priory of Christ Church, Canterbury; Dr. R. A. L. Smith's book no doubt clears the point, but I have not been able to consult it. Both Bradford-on-Avon and Tisbury were the headquarters of estates belonging to the great Benedictine Abbey of Shaftesbury, the wealthiest nunnery in England. Lastly the architectural masterpiece among all monastic barns, not mentioned in your earlier correspondence and not among the largest, is the exquisitely beautiful Glastonbury barn, adorned with the four Evangelistic symbols in its four gables. Another good Glastonbury Abbey barn survives at Doulting about 15 miles away.—BRYAN LITTLE, *Bath, Somerset.*

### *A SUSSEX BARN*

SIR,—In your issue of July 12 you give measurements of various tithe barns in Wiltshire. The tithe barn here measures 177 ft. by 33ft. There is a still longer one at Alciston, but what the exact measurements are I do not know.—OSWALD BIRLEY, *Charleston Manor, Westdean, Seaford, Sussex.*

### *THE BEAULIEU BARN*

SIR,—The monastic tithe barn, now partly in ruins, at St. Leonards, Beaulieu, measured 226 ft. by 77 ft. and was 60 ft. high (Warner, *History of Hampshire*).—A. EHRMAN, *Clobb Copse, Beaulieu, Hampshire.*

## AN HISTORICAL TEA TRAY

SIR,—A work of art of outstanding interest and importance, and in all probability the finest example of English papier-mâché work known, is the beautifully painted tea tray here illustrated, which has been graciously lent by His Majesty the King from the royal collections at Windsor Castle to the Regency Exhibition to be held from July 27 to August 9 at the Royal Pavilion, Brighton.

The tray is 30 inches across. Upon it, executed in oil colours within a characteristic "Regency" border of rosettes and oak leaves, is a view of Wilhelmshöhe—the so-called "German Versailles"—the work of a highly skilled English landscape painter.

In the background is the palace of Wilhelmshöhe, the former summer residence of the Landgraves of Hesse-Cassel, and for a time the residence of Napoleon III. In the foreground, beside the lake, the Great Fountain is shown in play. This famous fountain, the tallest in Europe—after the one formerly at Chatsworth—was in action until the war and shot up into the air a jet 170 feet high and 12 inches in diameter. The water was supplied from reservoirs 300 feet up on the hill-side above it. The tray is stamped on the back : CLAY

LONDON.

Wilhelmshöhe was laid out and the fountain constructed by the Landgrave Frederick II and his wife, Princess Mary, daughter of King George II. It was finished by their son, the Landgrave William, who erected the palace shown in the picture, and named it and the park after himself.

In the year 1800 George, Prince of Wales (afterwards Prince Regent) commissioned Henry Clay, the well-known papier-mâché maker, his "japanner" by appointment, to make for his cousin William, Landgrave of Hesse-Cassel, a set of four trays to be painted with views of Wilhelmshöhe, sketches for which had been sent over to England for the purpose. The bill for them, preserved among the Privy Purse accounts at Windsor Castle, reads thus :—

HENRY CLAY
June 27, 1800.
Japanner in Ordinary to His Majesty.
and to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales.
King Street, Covent Garden.

| | |
|---|---|
| 4 large paper tea trays finely painted from four views of (i.e. belonging to) the Landgrave of Hesse-Cassel at 25 guineas each ... ... | £100.0.0 |
| Packing case ... | £5.0.0 |
| | £105.0.0 |

The sequel to the story is curious. When examining in the Round Tower, Windsor Castle, the Account Books of George IV, as Prince and King, for the furnishing of Carlton House and the Royal Pavilion, Brighton, I came across Clay's bill for the four trays. Later the same day (March 3, 1929) walking down Kensington Church Street on my way home I saw to my astonishment one of the very trays I had just recorded propped up in the centre of the shop window of a well-known dealer in antiques! He told me he had bought it a few days before from a lady who had herself brought it over from Germany. It was subsequently purchased by Her Majesty Queen Mary and presented by Her Majesty to The King's Collection at Windsor Castle.—H. CLIFFORD SMITH, *25, Campden Grove, Campden Hill, Kensington, W.8.*

## A BOWLS RECORD ?

SIR,—At a bowls match at East Grinstead, the Mount Noddy Club, playing 3 rinks, secured, during the game, 8 woods at each of the 3 rinks, against their opponents. Is this a record?—W. F. NOKES, *Warlersville, Warlersville Way, Balcombe Road, Horley, Surrey.*

[We have been unable to trace any record to beat this.—ED.]

## THE LOST SOULS OF THE BOSPHORUS

SIR,—The birds described by your correspondent are, as Miss Pitt states, shearwaters : to be precise, the Levantine shearwater (*Puffinus puffinus yelkowan*). The specific title is a transliteration of the Turkish name for these birds—"wind-chaser"—and the poetic "lost souls" is probably of French origin. There is said to be a breeding site near the upper end of the Bosphorus, but I cannot verify this.—T. VERSCHOYLE, *Ankara, Turkey.*

## WHAT IS A FORSTAL?

SIR,—I am interested in the letter asking what is a forstal, as in my childhood in Warwickshire there was a word in use, which meant a narrow lane leading to a wood, or perhaps a field or farm. It was *fordruff*; it is spelt phonetically, as I have never seen it written. I wonder if it and the Kentish word are of the same origin.—E. M. WESTWOOD, *Burford, Oxfordshire.*

## SAGACITY OR SCENT ?

SIR,—The interesting letter in your issue of June 28 from Lord Dulverton brings to my mind one of the first gun dogs I possessed. This was handled for me by a man whose hobby it was to perfect as near as possible just one dog per year, and he certainly made a job of most of them. This particular dog—afterwards a winner—was one of the best I ever had.

When I went to fetch him home after his training, he was put through his paces by his trainer. One of his tricks, which in the light of wider gun-dog lore acquired since, I think could well have been omitted, was the following. His trainer allowed him to have the scent of box of a matches fresh from a one-dozen packet. I was then asked to place the other eleven boxes in a heap in some inaccessible place in another room, and while the dog was made to sit, the man took his box and placed it with the other eleven boxes, the one box being marked with a cross. On the command to "find," the marked box was unerringly retrieved from the other room on three separate occasions.

This always made me realise that we know strangely little about the magnitude of the range of senses of animals—in this case scent. Nowadays, of course, a more amazing aspect of the case would be the possession of matches in dozens!—P. V. HOWE, *Hall Green House, Tean, Staffordshire.*

## CLARET IN THE BOOT POLISH

SIR,—The following household hint recovered from a manuscript book of early 19th-century recipes, though perhaps of little practical value to-day, might interest readers, especially enthusiastic teetotallers :—

BOOT VARNISH
One bottle claret.
1 pt. black ink.
1 lb. gum arabic.
7 oz. sugar candy.

Stir occasionally for two or three days till the ingredients are quite dissolved, then add one pint of methylated spirit of wine, stirring all the time gently (do not shake it); bottle, and in two days it is fit for use.—A. W. WHITWORTH, *Woollas Hall, Pershore.*

## ARCHITECTURE OF TO-DAY AND YESTERDAY

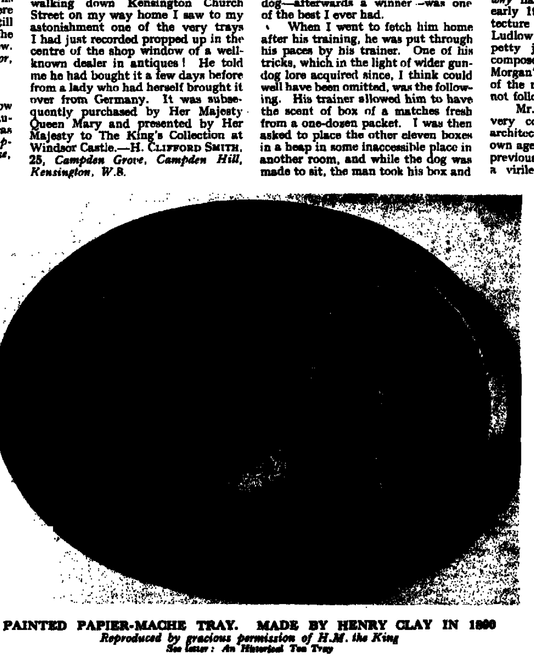
SIR,—Owing to the railroad strike, I have only just received my copy of COUNTRY LIFE for May 17, containing Mr. Guy Morgan's letter in reply to mine. His remarks about the Architectural Association and my generation provoke no comment.

It is incomprehensible why Mr. Hussey's penetrating essay analysing *why* half-timbering, 17th, 18th and early 19th century provincial architecture all harmonise so well at Ludlow should have provoked such petty jibes at Picasso, a modern composer and Corbusier, in Mr. Morgan's original letter. All three of the men he mentioned are leaders, not followers, in their respective arts.

Mr. Hussey's essay explained, very convincingly, how and why, architecture contemporary with its own age could harmonise with that of previous ages, and it was shown what a virile effect had been produced. Every issue of COUNTRY LIFE shows this quality of virility, but always with old buildings, hardly ever with contemporary ones. Three recent examples were Adam at Osterley, Kent at Rousham, and, in the vernacular, the early 18th-century windows at Dixton. There was no self-conscious reticence about any of these examples, but the feeling of self-confidence: "let us go ahead and do it—and in a contemporary manner."

To go back to Ludlow, the Butter Market is as different in appearance and spirit from the nearby half-timbered buildings as chalk from cheese, and it works. If the original idea for the half-timbered house is mostly indigenous, that for the Butter Market is not. It started on the shores of the Mediterranean, came through Rome northwards across the Continent, and was probably crystalized in England by Inigo Jones; and it works next to half-timbering. Mr. Hussey showed why.

If that could be done in the eighteenth century, I do not see why thoroughly contemporary architecture should not carry on the same spirit. If the "idea" comes from



PAINTED PAPIER-MACHE TRAY. MADE BY HENRY CLAY IN 1800
*Reproduced by gracious permission of H.M. the King*
*See letter : An Historical Tea Tray*

**POLE WAGGON FROM THE WOLDS FOR TWO, THREE OR FOUR HORSES. (*Middle*) ONE-HORSE MOOR SHAFT WAGGON (*Right*) SCOTCH CART, FROM THE VALE OF YORK**

*See letter: Old Yorkshire Waggons*

Corbusier, Picasso or anywhere else, what does it matter so long as it works in its particular setting? Until English architecture as a whole becomes consciously contemporary, using good material and workmanship with the vigour so evident up to about the 1940's, the current brand of 20th-century sentimental escapist traditionalism will remain aesthetically played out and dishonest.

The quality of neighbourliness mentioned by Mr. Morgan can be found in the architecture of many countries. It is no English monopoly.

I certainly appreciate ideas and concrete objects from the past; but I appreciate them most as something to give birth to new ideas for enriching the present and the future. New ideas are, however, the more worthwhile things to strive for; because, in a little time, they too become past and enrich the future.—HIGLON GRIFFITHS. *Houston, Texas.*

[It is satisfactory that Mr. Griffiths finds COUNTRY LIFE virile. The reason why this quality appears to be applied to the appreciation of old buildings rather than contemporary ones is, we would remind Mr. Griffiths, that no contemporary architecture of note has been built in this country for seven years. If he would refer to COUNTRY LIFE prior to about 1941, he would see that a due proportion of contemporary work was included and discussed.

Mr. Griffiths' case, that because 18th-century buildings harmonise with Gothic, therefore "thoroughly contemporary architecture" will necessarily harmonise with Georgian and Tudor cannot, however, be let pass without the important reservation that the design, as well as the material and workmanship, must have the quality of neighbourliness. The fundamental difference between contemporary and all earlier architecture is this: all earlier builders worked within the limitations of scale imposed by traditional materials, so that, however the designs differed, they had to have material and scale in common. Now, steel and concrete, not to mention synthetic facing materials and mechanical installations, have eliminated these common factors, so that harmony cannot be assumed to result from juxtaposition of modern and traditional. The theatre organ does not necessarily match well with lute or harpsichord. But if design and materials are handled with respect for, or at least consideration of, this fundamental factor of scale, we certainly and Mr. Morgan probably, would agree with Mr. Griffiths.—ED.]

## A WEEKLY GIFT OF LOAVES

SIR,—A London bread charity, 150 years older than that mentioned by Mr. Harold G. Grainger in your July 5 issue, continued to be distributed in kind to within living memory. This is Thomas Cleeve's Gift, which is among the most ancient of the St. Pancras charities for the relief of the poor. Thomas Cleeve, a citizen of London, on October 10, 1694, gave the sum of £50 to purchase an annuity, payable to the churchwardens of St. Pancras, to buy 13 penny loaves of bread a week and give them every Sunday to 13 poor persons of the parish who attended morning prayer. Within the past fifty years this was given by the parish clerk to poor women after Sunday morning service. Under a scheme established by the Charity Commissioners on September 11, 1917, the income is now applicable in providing gifts in kind to deserving and necessitous inhabitants of the Ancient Parish of St. Pancras (exclusive of Highgate). The income is derived from a rent-charge on "The Boot" public house, Cromer Street (until June 7, 1867, called Greenland Place), Gray's Inn Road, and amounts to £2 16s. per annum.—CHARLES E. LEE, *2 Duke's Road, Tavistock Square, London, W.C.1.*

## OLD YORKSHIRE WAGGONS

SIR,—In these days when the old farm waggons of our fathers are being ousted by motor-driven, mass-produced forms of transport, it seems worth setting on record some of the local varieties of waggons and carts used on our farms. Here in Yorkshire we have our own locally evolved types, and many of the terms used by our wheelwrights and carpenters differ from those in the South.

The old pole-waggons of the Wolds and the "Blackimoor" shaft waggons were built for heavy work, and some within living memory were drawn by oxen. Their construction is massive and elaborate, all of timber. The moor shaft waggons are the older type; they are built with great play in the bushes and table for work in rough country, and to circumvent moor stones buried in the ling. The pole waggon came in after the large scale enclosures by the Sykes and other big landowners and was designed for the wide straight roads of the Wolds. Croskill of Malton's cupless iron arm came in about 60 years ago. Other makers were Ringrose of Malton, Parker of Pocklington, Sissons of Driffield, and Fosters of Hovingham. The North Grimstone waggons are still made with wooden arms. The arms were greased with goose fat or yellow horse fat.

The "Scotch Cart" of the North is equivalent to the "hermaphrodite" of the East and Midlands. This is a waggon body on two wheels; two front wheels can be hooked on when required.

The carriers' carts of the Vale of Pickering with their square black hoods had a suggestion of Southern Europe about them. The late W. H. St. Quintin, the naturalist, pointed this out to my father. Travellers in Andalusia have noticed the same type of cart there. Was the style, as has been suggested, brought over by the Gipsies?

Some of the Yorkshire terms may interest readers. The "rave" of the South and West and the "surbord" of East Anglia is the "evverin" or "shelvin" of Yorkshire. The main spars are "soles" and "liggers"; the cross-bars and brackets "airbredes" or "earbredes"; the side-boards and rails "hecks" and "gormers." The "shears" are where the top and bottom front axle-trees turn on the table. The "fiddlebar" is the back of the square block table where it runs under the "springpole." The latter connects the front and back axles. A "jogglepin" lets you "skel" the cart up. The Yorkshire carter will say, "Sha rins like a glass gat" ("like a glass gate or way," *i.e. perfectly*).—N. A. HUDLESTON, 75, *Forest Lane, Starbeck, Harrogate, Yorkshire.*

## FISHING IN BURMA

SIR,—A method of fishing somewhat similar to that illustrated by Mr. J. Denton Robinson in your issue of April 26, is used in Burma. It is, of course, more crude, the net being suspended from an umbrella frame of bamboo and lowered and raised by hand from the end of a bamboo rod driven into the ground. The photograph taken in the Imphal plain on the Burma border, shows the net being lowered by a Manipuri woman.

There is another method, used in the same district, for catching fish living in the mud of the paddy during the monsoon. Beehive-shaped bamboo cages, not unlike lobster pots, are plunged into the mud vigorously stirred up by a large number of fishers, and the catch is taken out by hand through the hole in the top. These mud fish are quite sizeable and the flesh good, and they made a welcome change in the mess from the eternal soya-link sausage or "local purchase" chicken.—R. F. KENNEDY (Major). *Baragwanath Military Hospital, Johannesburg.*

**THE UMBRELLA-SHAPED NET**

*See letter: Fishing in Burma*

## KESTREL OVER THE CITY

SIR,—Your correspondent, whose letter appeared in COUNTRY LIFE (June 28), reported seeing a kestrel over Bishopsgate. I, too, saw one over the Tower of London on the afternoon of June 20. This may, of course, have been the same bird.—ELISABETH BALDWIN, 23, *Keys Road, Cricklewood, London, N.W.2.*

## THE ROSE REVIVED

*From Sir John Fox, O.B.E.*

SIR,—If Mrs. Traill-Clouston in her letter in your issue of June 28, refers to the inn at Newbridge, where the Windrush joins the Thames, I heard an explanation of the name many years ago, for which I cannot vouch, but simpler perhaps than the biblical derivation suggested in the letter.

An undergraduate when at Oxford often visited the inn then called "The Rose." In later life he revisited it, and to his disgust found that the name had been altered to "The Rose and Crown." Being an artist, he offered to paint a sign on condition that the old name was restored. The offer was accepted, the sign painted, and by agreement the name changed to "The Rose Revived."—JOHN FOX, *Bird Place, Goring-on-Thames, Oxfordshire.*

### *AN INN RESTORED*

SIR,—Mrs. Traill-Clouston, in your number of June 28, puts forward a suggestion for the derivation of the name of the Rose Revived inn at Northmoor, near Oxford. I think the real derivation is, unfortunately, less romantic. The inn, originally called The Rose, had fallen on evil days and become neglected. A few years before the war it was restored and became the charming place it now is: and the name, most suitably, became The Rose Revived.—JOHN TERRY, 49, *Oakley Street, S.W.3.*

[We have to thank other correspondents for writing in reply to Mrs. Traill-Clouston's letter.—ED.]

## THE CONVOLVULUS HAWK MOTH

SIR,—It may interest those of your readers who are amateur entomologists to learn that we discovered a Convolvulus Hawk Moth (*Herse Convolvuli*) in a cabin wardrobe while at sea off Weymouth the other day. The owner of the cabin was most perturbed that this large and handsome moth might have been eating his clothing, or even accompanying him ashore in the dog watches, and a solution had to be found to reassure him.

We can only imagine that the

A FINE TIMBER GRANARY IN HAMPSHIRE

*See letter: Built on Staddle Stones*

chrysalis came aboard at Gibraltar with some bananas (which were hung up in the wardrobe during the passage to England) and, having fallen somewhere, emerged as a large moth some months later. As we on board have little knowledge of moths or their ways, we should be most interested if anyone could tell us more of the life habits of this Hawk Moth and whether our conjecture is near the truth.—JOHN ADAMS, Mess Secretary, *H.M.S. Solebay.*

[The Convolvulus Hawk Moth is one of the migrants that, with the Death's Head, Striped, and Silver-Striped, Bedstraw, Oleander and Spurge Hawks, fly by night from Southern or Central Europe or even North Africa to reach these shores during the summer months. Some, of course, come in far greater numbers than others, and among those mentioned the Convolvulus is perhaps the most common. Most of the moths die within a few days of their arrival and pass unnoticed, and it is the progeny of the migrant females that we see later in the season feeding at dusk from the flowers in our gardens.

It is unlikely that a chrysalis was introduced into the ship as suggested. The most reasonable suggestion is that the moth flew in through a porthole and sought sanctuary in the cabin wardrobe.

The caterpillars of the Convolvulus are purely vegetarian and would soon perish if given a diet of masculine clothing. They are usually found in this country feeding on Field Bindweed (*Convolvulus arvensis*), especially when it is growing rather hidden from the view as in a potato field. The larvæ are sometimes found in hedge-rows feeding on the Hedge Bindweed (*C. sepium*), and there are certain plants of the same natural order *Convolvulaceæ* occasionally grown in gardens which may attract the females to lay, and the caterpillars should be looked for in August and September. They attain a length of four inches and have the characteristic Hawk Moth "tail" at their posterior end, but they vary so much in colour that it is difficult to describe them, as they may be light or dark green with darker markings, or even brown, light or dark. All have seven oblique stripes along the sides of their bodies, however, which helps to place them as Hawk Moth larvæ.—ED.]

## BUILT ON STADDLE STONES

SIR,—In your issue of June 14 you reproduced a photograph of the old granary at Cowdray, Sussex, built on staddle stones. Here is another which I photographed recently in Hampshire. When all too often old country objects are finding their only purpose to act as ornaments for suburban houses and gardens, it is pleasing to find any of them serving their original useful function. Note the brick foundations under the two staddles on the left; the middle one on the right has received a hard blow, but is still doing good service.

Incidentally, the flint barn behind is also of interest. The flint is banded with brick courses, and there are narrow slit brick-framed windows.—E. M. BARRAUD, *Little Eversden, Cambridgeshire.*

## LULLINGSTONE CHURCH

SIR,—Lady Hart Dyke's experiments in silk-worm farming at her home at Lullingstone Castle, Kent, are well known, and it is to this venture that the little church of St. Botolph, which stands close by, owes its delightful and unique altar cloth.

The cloth is woven from silk spun at the Castle, and is exquisitely worked in red and gold with a thistle design, which gives a dignified and colourful touch to the church furnishings.

In contrast with the craftsmanship of to-day is that of yesterday, as will be seen in the excellently preserved Flemish-style rood screen of the early sixteenth century, and the tastefully decorated white plaster roof. There are, too, some fine family memorials.

The church itself dates back in part to the fourteenth century, and is set in parkland well away from the main road. The absence of tomb stones, which are usually to be seen jostling each other in the vicinity of most old churches, gives St. Botoph's a rather lonely appearance, but a pleasant effect is created by the green sward which is allowed to run freely and undisturbed to the ancient walls.—R. H. SMITH, 12, *Whateley Road, Penge, S.E.20.*

## DEVASTATION IN WEST SUFFOLK

SIR,—I would like to ask your readers to try to visualise the scene of utter devastation left behind by the freak hail storm whose centre broke over a strip of land, cultivated by small-holders here in West Suffolk, on June 25. It is as if enemy 'planes had flown across this bit of country, on a mile-wide front, leaving death and destruction in their wake.

The storm broke during the dinner-hour, when most men and women were in their homes, but some caught outside were so bruised and their skin so torn that they had to receive medical attention. Ducks and chickens had their eyes cut out, and many were killed. The bark of fruit trees was stripped off, together with all the fruit. Fields of mustard, just on the bloom, were mown as by a combine. Barley, oats and wheat were pulped, and the unripe grain shredded out. Sugar beet, their leaves all gone with the wind, had their hearts ripped out by the ice. Of acres of potatoes, nothing remains but short frayed stalks. Broad beans and peas are scarcely recognisable, and immature onions, like everything else, now lie rotting in the ground.

The tragedy is that this has happened in the land of the Fen small-holders—the "little men"—where husband and wife and sons and daughters wring a precarious livelihood from a not-too-generous soil for themselves, their cattle and poultry, and grow food for us. In one short half-hour the whole of their year's work, and for many the whole of their life's work, has been destroyed.

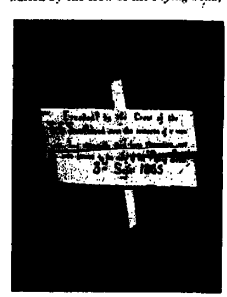
Potatoes, vegetables and fruit are gone, together with all the food for their cattle, pigs, and poultry, and they are prohibited from buying food for their stock, even if they could pay for it, because they have no coupons to surrender.

Those good neighbours, the Women's Institutes, have come to their immediate aid with fresh vegetables, so there is something to put on their children's plates; but shoes have to be bought, children have to continue at school, and land has to be cleared, fresh seed bought, new fertilisers have to be paid for. Life must continue, but no money will come in till after the 1947 harvest.

It is on behalf of these women that I, the wife of their Member of Parliament, beg all your readers to contribute what they can, just to give these people time to carry on over the next sixteen months. A jewel, a piece of silver, or money sent to The National Farmers' Union, 51a, Abbeygate Street, Bury St. Edmunds, will be most gratefully received.—ROBIN CLIFTON-BROWN, *Fornham St. Martin, Bury St. Edmunds.*

## IN THE TRACK OF THE WINDJAMMERS

SIR,—If it were possible to find, or check, the world's loneliest graves, surely that shown on the enclosed photograph would be well up the list. It was seen by the whaler's crew (of which I was one) of H.M.S. *Archer*, on Auckland Island (uninhabited) due south of New Zealand on January 15, 1903. The inscription read: "Erected by the crew of the S.S. *Southland* over the remains of a man who had apparently died from starvation and was buried by the crew of the *Flying Scud*,




A CASTAWAY'S LONELY GRAVE

*See letter: In the Track of the Windjammers*

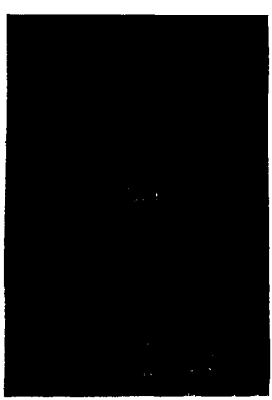
3rd Sept., 1865." Beside it were two or three other graves.

We were on a cruise through the islands, of which there are many, that lay in the track of windjammers homeward bound from Australia. Our duty was to look out for castaways, and to inspect the provisions huts established on the main island of each group in case of shipwreck. There were evidently no huts way back in 1865, as the wording on the board speaks for itself. We had an engine-room rating with a camera. I shall never forget the feeling I had as we stood with caps off in solemn reverence to those survivors of a wreck in far-off days. Now, thanks to New Zealand Trinity House and the Royal Navy, castaways, if any, would soon be rescued.—HERBERT CHANEY, *27, Belmont Avenue, Latchford, Warrington, Lancashire.*

## PICTURES BY JOHN MARTIN

SIR,—I am writing a life of John Martin, 1789-1854, the painter of *Belshazzar's Feast*, etc. In his lifetime and for some years after his death, he was as famous as any English artist, but from 1880 till recently his fame was eclipsed, and it is now difficult to ascertain the whereabouts of many of his chief pictures. Some of them may have been destroyed, but a number of them are probably still hanging in the country houses to which his patrons took them.

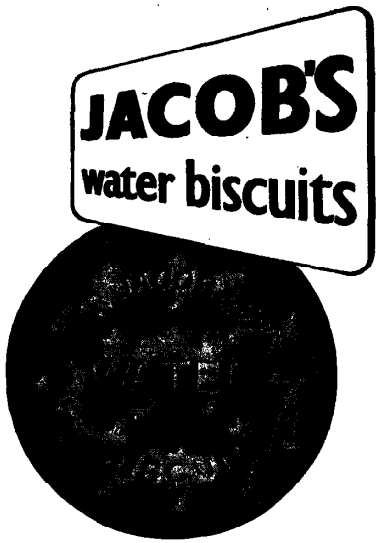
I should be very much obliged if any present owners would kindly let me know the size and title, and, if possible, the signature and date, of any picture by Martin in their possession.—T. BALISTER, *Holt End, Ashford Hill, Newbury, Berkshire.*



THE 16TH-CENTURY SCREEN AND GEORGIAN CHANCEL

ALTAR FRONTAL WOVEN FROM SILK SPUN AT LULLINGSTONE

*See letter: Lullingstone Church*

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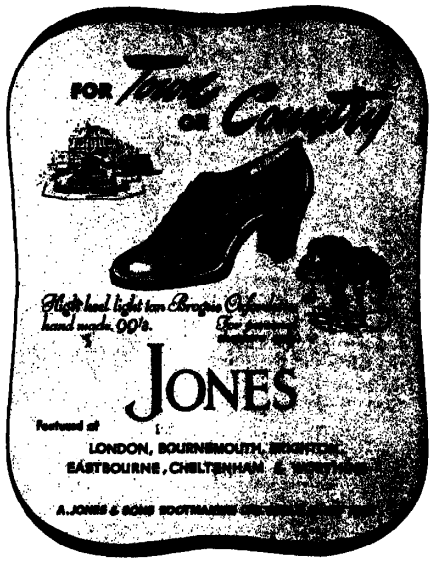


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***The Queen was like this in 1477 . . . . .***

Round cards were in existence in 1477. In some packs suits were represented by animals and flowers.

***and like this in 1482 . . .***

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# HIGHLAND QUEEN

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***never changes . . . .***

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## *Fire That Never Dies*

*How the pale Phoebe, hunting in a grove,*
*First saw the boy Endymion, from whose eyes*
*She took eternal fire that never dies;*

*JOHN FLETCHER (1579–1625).*

We may suppose that Phoebe knew that undying fires are precious beyond rubies; especially in domestic affairs.

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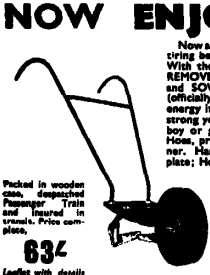

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NEW BOOKS

# AN EAST ANGLIAN VILLAGE

*Reviews by* HOWARD SPRING

MAJOR MICHAEL HOME some time ago wrote a book called *Autumn Fields*, in which he gave a reminiscent look to the days of his childhood and youth in East Anglia. It was concerned rather with the people and institutions surrounding him than with his personal affairs; and it is hardly surprising that a book so flavoursome as that was, so richly endowed with the ability to turn back the mind of anyone on the wrong side of fifty, should have caused readers to ask for a successor. (I must be excused for that phrase—"the wrong side of fifty." To make a personal confession: when I was young I thought that to be more than fifty was to be on the wrong side; but now that I have left fifty in the lurch I am of another opinion. Certainly, I would not exchange the memories of my own youth for those likely to be acquired by men now young. So the phrase must be taken in its conventional and erroneous sense.)

Well, Major Home now gives us *Spring Sowing* (Methuen 12s. 6d.) in which he looks again, this time from a more personal angle, at the village of Heathley in East Anglia. He has a deep sense of the importance of villages in the economy of England, and this is not lessened by the virtual obliteration of the region he knew. In his childhood, bracken and rabbits, proliferating under the Game Laws, had advanced with a deadly stride; and now the Forestry Commissioners have taken a hand and imposed a geometrical pattern of conifers upon a landscape that was once the inspiration of a culture capable of producing Old Crome.

### A REARGUARD BATTLE

Thus—and in other ways—the village manner of life is fighting a rearguard battle, but still, as Major Home says, old customs "may remain in forms that are deeply disguised." So may old phrases, as I discovered here in my village the other day. A village woman said of something that it was "black as mother's midnight," and that puzzled me, for it didn't seem to make sense. She herself had no idea what "mother's midnight" was. She used it as unthinkingly as an habitual swearer uses "bloody," with no sense of its ancestry. Suddenly I remembered that there was a time when as some English words "th" was used where now we use "d", and one of these words is "murther." I dare swear that "murther" has been handed down the centuries corrupted to "mother," and that the original phrase was "Black as murther's midnight." And what a phrase! Pure Elizabethan, such as could never be coined by the common speech of to-day. One may well imagine that it was known to Shakespeare when he wrote:

> And night peep through the
> curtain of the dark
> To cry: Hold, hold!

A few things like that may still be dredged out of dying villages, and this digression leads me to the comment that Major Home is a superb dredger. He has seen his own village decay in obedience to a simple economic sequence. First of all, cheap imported meat, and then, at home, three fatal steps. "No bullocks, no muck, no crops. 'As simple as that?' you say incredibly, and for our light lands I say emphatically, Yes. And I will not labour the point. All I would ask is that you should take such things into account when considering the ultimate ruin of an English village."

In his childhood, ultimate ruin had not come. His picture is of a village that was not what it had been but was still connected by a few vital if feeble links with the old tradition and economy. He shows us this place and himself growing up in it, a boy with an aptitude for writing English. This was to stand him well, for thus he began a scholarship career which in the long run removed him from this scene that is now enchantingly remembered.

### BOYHOOD MEMORIES

He moved on to a grammar school in a neighbouring town, and there witnessed what appears to have been the only case he ever came across of a boy declining to take corporal punishment from a master. Armed with an ink pot, which he threatened to throw, he won the day. In my older years, I am surprised that more boys do not rebel against sadistic punishment. I witnessed one case of rebellion in my childhood, and the hero of the occasion was hardly thereafter lower in my estimation than the great liberators of history. The master concerned was a huge bearded brute who thrashed unmercifully for the most trivial breaking of his arbitrary rules. On the occasion of the Great Scene, he called up a boy for punishment and there was no reason to expect anything but the customary slaughter. But the boy, when near the master, made a sudden astounding leap, seized him by the beard, hung on with both hands, and with his hob-nailed boots flayed the tyrants' shins till he screamed with the pain. Then, releasing his hold, he fled from the

SPRING SOWING. *By Major Michael Home* (Methuen, 12s. 6d.)

WHILE FOLLOWING THE PLOUGH. *By John Stewart Collis* (Jonathan Cape, 9s. 6d.)

PICCOLA. *By Helen La Penta* (Gollancz, 7s. 6d.)

room, and with bated breath we watched him flying across the yard and out into the street, taking all our hearts with him.

I trust Major Home will forgive me for matching my reminiscences against his own. But he has written the sort of book that incites one to do this: a book calling up the kind of life that many of us knew, making it live with a richness that places us in his debt—for history if we are young, and if we are (shall I say?) on the right side of fifty, for dear remembrance sake.

### ON A FARM IN WAR TIME

From his earliest days Major Home knew the land and hard work upon it. Mr. John Stewart Collis, the author of *While Following the Plough* (Cape, 9s. 6d.) did not. He is a man of letters who went to work upon the land during the war. His book is not merely a record of what befell him there: it is a record coloured by the attractive personality of the author.

"How much has to be done to a field before its bed is fit for sowing! Ploughed twice perhaps; cultivated first one way then criss-cross; dragged twice; chain harrowed and rolled; the couch burnt. Does the general public realise that all this is done to that field seen from the road, looking so silent, so deserted, as if no one ever went near it? Does the man on the road know that it has to be scratched and beaten and turned over like a rug, and scorched and burnt and knocked about? Does he know that before we can live even by bread alone, before bread can begin at all, this must be done? I did not, when I was the man on the road."

This paragraph explains the book: its combination of modesty and curiosity. Before his time was up, there were not many jobs on a farm that Mr. Collis had not done, not many sorts of farm workers that he had not met and assessed. He looks at it all with a deep-seeing eye. When he had pruned some currant bushes, "leaving behind the already renewed bushes which should repeat the work of the others next year," he reflected: "I find such well-known physical facts to be metaphysically most satisfying. The ordinary is rather more extraordinary than the extraordinary, just as the material is rather more immaterial than the immaterial, and it is surely the mark of an inferior mind to be moved to wonder by the exception instead of the rule. The rule beats the exception at its own game. It is not the rabbit out of the hat but the rabbit out of the rabbit that is so surprising."

### MARTYRS FOR MANURE

Mr. Collis is modest enough to withhold his opinion on those matters which set the experts raging, such, for example, as the Artificial v. Pure Compost squabble. "Yet talking of schools of thought on the subject, it seems to me that should you live in the U.S.S.R. it would be wise to watch your step about this. Arthur Koestler in his *Darkness at Noon* says: 'A short time ago our leading agriculturist, B, was shot with thirty of his collaborators because he maintained the opinion that nitrate artificial manure was superior to potash. No. 1 is all for potash; therefore B and the thirty had to be liquidated as saboteurs'." Our English free and easy acceptance of opinion, says Mr. Collis, "may not promote progress," but this leaves us rather starkly facing the question of what progress is.

The sort of world which his experiences on the land caused Mr. Collis to think desirable is one in which more and more people learn to use both their hands and their heads. "I continually have day-dreams of a time when lots of people would come out into the fields and love working with their hands, and also love working with the mind, their manly heritage. . . . It will be a sad criticism of life if we have to say that such a dream is futile. Anyway, I wouldn't ask much more than this of my Utopia—easier to come by, more worth coming by, than the honey-sweet Nowheres of the pseudo-poets."

The real inequality, Mr. Collis thinks, between the land worker and others is that, for all the labour-saving machines, the man on the land works as long hours as ever. He has literally no free time. If the planners improve housing, pay, and education without tackling this matter, then the mental and spiritual life of the agricultural workers will not advance one step.

### FROM ITALY TO THE U.S.A.

Miss Helen La Penta's little book *Piccola* (Gollancz, 7s. 6d.) would have been better with a bit more salt and a little less sugar. It is a novel which gives the day-to-day life of a middle-class child, first in Italy and then in the United States of America. Piccola's father was an American artist who, in youth, married an Italian girl. She died young, and we find Piccola being brought up by nuns in Rome. Then she moves to the home of her Italian grandfather and grandmother in a remote mountainous province. Finally the father turns up, takes Piccola to the U.S.A., and we watch her coltish efforts to fit herself into the novel and surprising scene.

Miss La Penta is at her best when she is describing things, whether village festivals or natural scenery. When it comes to people, they appear to live in a very simple and sinless world. But the book has a naïve appeal, especially its earlier parts. I for one would have been glad if Piccola had had the luck to fail to become Miss Jodie Naywood.

### WITH ROD AND CAMERA

MAJOR ANTHONY BUXTON needs no introduction to readers of COUNTRY LIFE, for many of his fascinating articles on sport and Nature have appeared in these pages. In *Fisherman Naturalist* (Collins, 10s. 6d.), we read of experiences with rod and camera, of personalities in fur and feather, and last, but not least, of a lady called Jane. The author has a charming and vivid pen, but even his skilled pen has hardly done justice to what the reviewer considers the perfect working terrier. Jane might not be allowed inside a show ring—she would never condescend to visit it—but as a personality, an intelligent companion and a sportswoman, ready to do anything from hunt a stoat to landing her master's fish, she is certainly without peer. If you want to see a real terrier turn to Plate 8A facing page 80 of this book.

However, the most important part of the volume is the latter half, which is devoted to natural history, for the most part about Major Buxton's home, Horsey Hall, in Norfolk, and on the adjoining broads and marshes. What he does not know about broadland birds is not worth knowing; what he does know would fill many volumes, and his accounts of harriers, both marsh and Montagu's, make entrancing reading, to say nothing of the bitterns, bearded tits, water rails, etc., that slip in and out of his pages. They emerge from the printed page as flesh and blood personalities, yet his accounts are accurate and valuable contributions to ornithological knowledge.

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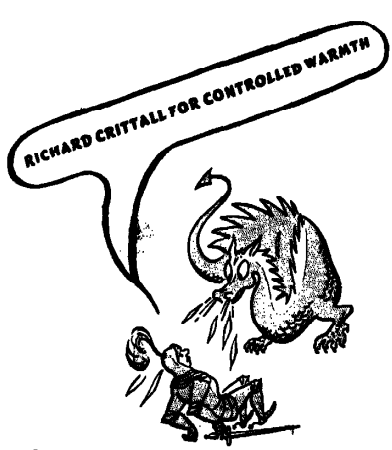


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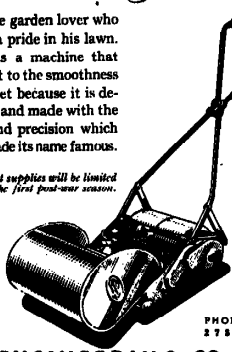

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*FARMING NOTES*

# FARMERS LOSE ON THE BARGAIN

NOW that farmers have had time to work out for themselves how the new scale of farm produce prices will meet their increased labour bills, few can be happy about the prospect. In my own case the additional labour bill arising *from the £4 a week minimum wage* and extra overtime rates will amount to about £280 in a full year. A quick calculation on the basis of the produce sold off the farm last year warns me that the increase in income I shall get will be not more than £250. Everyone seems to be agreed that it is the mixed farm of 300-500 acres which employs a good deal of labour that will be hardest hit by the new conditions. The big arable farm that is mainly mechanised does not carry by comparison such a big weight of wages for every hundred pounds worth of produce sold. At the other end of the scale the small family farm employing at the most one man will, so far as the increased wages bill is concerned, escape lightly. The farmer himself will, as he fully deserves, get better recompense for his time. On another count, however, the small farm will be hard hit. It will be very difficult indeed for the small holder who relies on milking, say, eight cows and running 50-100 poultry with one or two breeding sows to keep up his production during the coming winter in order to earn the higher produce prices that have now been fixed. He must have purchased feeding-stuffs, and he is now threatened with rations reduced almost to vanishing point. It does not help him much to be offered an extra 4d. a dozen for his eggs between August and November if he has not the feeding-stuffs to keep his laying birds in production.

### *Threshing in the Field*

MR. TOM WILLIAMS has impressed upon us the desirability of threshing as much wheat as possible in the harvest field during August and September. A bonus is to be given on the price of early threshed wheat. This will suit the combine-harvester kings who anyway thresh immediately; if they can avoid the cost of drying grain before they send it off to the mills, they will be all the better pleased. But this extra money for early threshing will not come the way of many small farmers. They do not own a threshing machine. They must rely on a contractor, and he has enough threshing to keep him busy through nine months of the year. He cannot possibly attend to every farmer who would like him to come and thresh some wheat in the harvest field. The snag I see about this early threshing bonus is that it will aggravate the congestion at the mills in late August and September. In recent years the trouble has always been during the harvest that the mills could not handle the wheat pouring in by road and rail. I have known a lorry load of wheat turned back from the mill at 9 o'clock on Saturday morning because there was no hope of it being unloaded until Monday. Presumably as we are so short of wheat, the grain silos at the ports are not full of imported wheat. It should be possible for some of our home-grown grain from the harvest field to be taken there and conditioned so that it will keep for a week or two until the mills are able to cope promptly with home-grown grain as it comes off the farms.

### *Combine Harvesting*

EVERY farmer with 100 acres of corn or more must be wishing that he had his own combine harvester. No doubt one day the supply of machines suitable for English conditions will catch up with the demand. I went to Winnersh in Berkshire recently to see one of the new British-made combines which goes under the name of MM G8. MM stands for Minneapolis Moline and Messrs. Sale, Tilney & Co., Ltd., are manufacturing under licence from the American company. *Some modifications in American design are needed to suit English conditions because we grow heavier crops of grain and there is a greater bulk of straw with which the machine has to deal.* This particular combine has an 8 ft. cut and a 31-inch drum. The performance last harvest was good, and I have no doubt that there is a waiting list for this combine, which costs £675 on steel wheels. The same British manufacturers have a small 4 ft. 10 in. cut combine harvester called the J.V., which as yet is only in the prototype stage. This is really a small-scale counterpart of another MM model. One type is drawn by tractor, and it will not need more than a medium-powered tractor, and the other has its own 22 h.p. engine. This size of combine, if it can be sold at £300 or £400, would meet the requirements of the mixed farmer who grows upwards of 100 acres of corn but does not feel justified in laying out about £700 in a full-scale combine-harvester. I should be interested to know how this new machine performs in the harvest field. It looked to me a sturdy workmanlike job.

### *Old Season Flax*

IT really seems fantastic that there should still be on farms 2,400 tons of flax fibre and 3,300 tons of linseed from the 1944 and 1945 flax crops grown under contract for the Government. Farmers would like to see the ricks gone and certainly the 3,300 tons of linseed which will come from the crop when it is threshed at the factories would be very useful at the present time when this country is so short of linseed. The paint manufacturers are crying out for the oil, and farmers need linseed cake, which is the residue after the oil has been pressed out of the seed. During the war farmers grow flax for the Ministry of Supply. Now the Board of Trade seems to be the responsible Department. It was Sir Stafford Cripps who gave this information about the old season flax crops still remaining on farms. He added the comforting assurance that the 3,300 tons of linseed would no doubt be used as soon as it was available. Why it should not be threshed out now is not clear.

### *Ploughing Grants*

GRANTS of £2 an acre will still be paid after July 31 to farmers who plough grassland that has been sown for three years and longer. The period of the ploughing grant is extended to March 31, 1947. In the case of the three-year grassland, there is a condition that when ploughed it shall be sown to crops for the 1947 harvest, but in special cases the ground can be bare or bastard fallowed. Some leys would be much better for ploughing. The land was sown out when there was still some live couch grass as a legacy from over-cropping in the war years.

### *Seed Potatoes*

SOME of the disappointing potato crops in the South may be due to poor seed from Scotland. Certainly weather conditions during the spring and early summer have been against the crop. Many farmers did not succeed in making a really good bed for the potatoes and, as the ground lay cold for several weeks, the seed did not get a flying start. So far as Scottish seed is concerned, I know the Department of Agriculture there is tightening its seed inspection scheme, so we may hope for better seed next year. CINCINNATUS.

*THE ESTATE MARKET*

# THE CHANGING COUNTRYSIDE

WHEN woodlands were included in the acreage of some large estate that was to be divided into lots for auction it was invariably the rule for agents and owners to state that protective belts of trees would be left for the maintenance of amenities. This was a welcome concession not only to the proprietors and resident occupiers of adjoining property but to lovers of English scenery. It is true that very often, after the timber merchants had cleared away the trees, not much remained behind the "protective belt" except a tract of tangled undergrowth and tree stumps, but to a casual observer, who did not examine the spot too closely, the landscape effect was practically unimpaired.

Plainly the felling of hundreds of acres of old woodland cannot be done without materially altering the aspect of parts of the countryside. The eventual disappearance of richly wooded features in a good many counties is in no way compensated for by the creation elsewhere of new enclosures of coniferous trees, for there are those who maintain that these trees can never invest the countryside with the charm that was imparted to it by matured oaks, elms, beeches, and other English timber. Where woodland is sold for felling the process of clearance is usually slow, and a very long interval may elapse before a new use may be found for the land, even if it be possible as an economic proposition to remove tree stumps and adapt the area to cropping.

### BROXBORNEBURY: OVER £155,000

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL has purchased the mansion and 84 acres of the late Major G. R. B. Smith-Bosanquet's Broxbornebury estate, near Hoddesdon. This estate of 1,650 acres came under the hammer of Mr. W. H. J. Long (Messrs. Hampton and Sons) and Mr. H. Soutar (Messrs. Rumball and Edwards) at Hertford. The property, other than that sold to the County Council, was first submitted in its entirety, and bids became so slow after the £100,000 mark had been passed that the agents wisely decided to refuse £109,000 and deal with it in lots.

Of the 79 lots, all but four or five changed hands upon the briskest of competition, and in the end, including the public purchase, a total of £155,483 was recorded. The tenant of the home farm of 148 acres secured it for £7,300, and other lots included Etteridge Farm, 142 acres, £5,300, with an additional payment of £868 for the timber; Broxborne Wood, a richly timbered tract of 82 acres, £5,500; Manor Farm, Wormley, 174 acres, £5,000; Stocking Wood, 37 acres, £5,000; an enclosure of 39 acres of woodland, £4,100; 85 acres of parkland, £7,300, and a similar piece of land, 61 acres, £4,000. Most of the cottages went to the tenants, and some were not for sale, the trustees having granted life tenancies to the cottagers. One specially noteworthy lot was Wentworth Cottages, a model group of 20 houses, designed by the late Sir Edwin Lutyens. It had been intended to deal with these separately, cottage by cottage, but eventually they were sold, as a whole, for £7,500.

### TOCKINGTON MANOR SOLD

THE break-up of Tockington Manor, midway between Bristol and Gloucester, was resorted to when the estate was sold as a whole for £46,000. Mr. W. H. J. Long (Messrs. Hampton and Sons) was in the rostrum, and had been prepared to deal with the property of 677 acres in over 30 lots. The gross rent is £1,498 a year.

Mr. Amery Underwood (Messrs. Hampton and Sons) has negotiated the sale of the head lease of one of the most valuable sites in Oxford Street, the acre covered by the modern premises of Messrs. Waring and Gillow, Limited. The unexpired term of the lease is 950 years. The tenure by Messrs. Waring and Gillow is not affected by the transaction. The joint agents in the matter were Messrs. Stanley Moss and Pilcher and Messrs. Jones, Lang, Wootton and Sons.

### SALE OF LYMPNE CASTLE

MR. HENRY BEECHAM has sold Lympne Castle to Mrs. Peel. His agents were Messrs. Alfred J. Burrows, Clements, Winch and Sons. Lympne Castle was built in the reign of Henry V, on a site near, but much higher than, that of the Roman stronghold now known as Studfall. The late Sir Robert Lorimer supervised the restoration and residential improvement of Lympne Castle about 40 years ago. The origin of Lympne Castle seems to have been the building of "a strong dwelling made like a castelet embateloyd" for the use of the clergy of the neighbouring church of St. Stephen. Leland alluded to it as "the Archidiacon's Howse," and the Archdeacon at Canterbury had possession of it until the dissolution of the monasteries. This building and the tower and great hall now constitute the south wing of Lympne Castle. A spot in the castle grounds is the scene of the old Shipway Court, where maritime matters used to be debated, and the successive Wardens of the Cinque Ports were with elaborate ceremony installed in office.

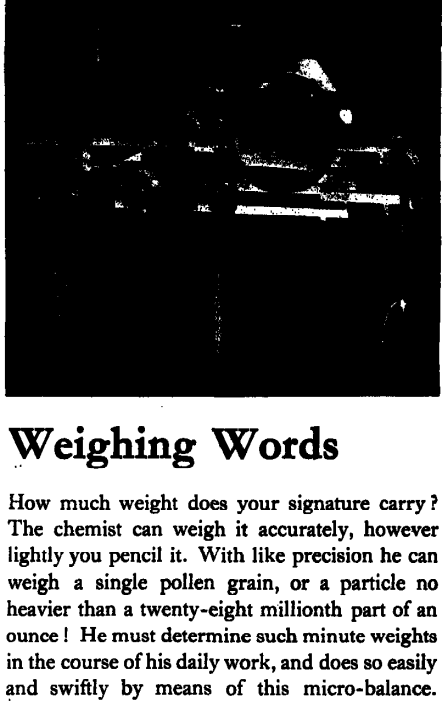
### A MEMORY OF BOGNOR REGIS

CRAIGWEIL MANOR, now in the hands of Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley and Messrs. Fox and Sons, for sale by order of Sir Arthur Du Cros, Bt., must not be confused with Craigweil House. The latter residence, which was close to the Manor House, became famous in a matter of a few hours when the announcement was made that King George V would be taken there to spend a period of convalescence. In recognition of the benefit which he derived from a short stay the resort received the addition of Regis to its name. This change of its name reminds us that, about 165 years ago, a hatter named Hotham took a great interest in the Sussex resort, endeavoured to change its name to "Hotham's Town." The proposal did not find favour. Craigweil Manor, a couple of miles west of Bognor Regis, stands in a secluded spot with 250 ft. of sea frontage, and there are foreshore rights. The house is luxuriously fitted, and has a modern complement of bathrooms, and there is an annexe which can be used with the house or wholly independent of it. The wooded grounds and the flower gardens make up nearly 3 acres. Extra land can be had. Seeing the choice that was made regarding Craigweil House, there is no need to enlarge on the restful and health-giving qualities of this part of the Sussex coast.

The private sale is notified by Messrs. Jackson Stops and Staff of the Surrey residence and nearly 40 acres at Limpsfield Common, known as Teachleys Park.

Rockstead Farm, 176 acres, sold for £8,500, formed part of a manor that was scheduled in Domesday. Anne of Cleves held the property for a short time. The half-timbered house is of 16th-century origin. The sale took place at Fordingbridge, the farm being one of 30 lots totalling 850 acres, offered by Lady Coote's executors, and the total realisation reached close on £30,000.

ARBITER.

# Weighing Words

How much weight does your signature carry? The chemist can weigh it accurately, however lightly you pencil it. With like precision he can weigh a single pollen grain, or a particle no heavier than a twenty-eight millionth part of an ounce! He must determine such minute weights in the course of his daily work, and does so easily and swiftly by means of this micro-balance. The modern micro-balance is a jewel among laboratory instruments, so sensitive that it must be treated with the utmost care. Draughts, moisture, slight changes in temperature, or even the distant rumble of heavy traffic can upset it. When this picture was taken the photographer had to keep himself and his lights well away from the balance, for a rise of two degrees in temperature within its glass cabinet would affect its accuracy. So fine a degree of adjustment is often needed to obtain information of the greatest practical importance. For example, an infinitesimal speck of vitamin D is the whole daily dose for a human being. It is a far cry from the test-tube to the micro-balance, but they form the alpha and omega of an armoury of instruments which enables the British chemical industry to give the nation unfailing and expert service.

ICI

# Two Main Evening Styles—Picture or Sheath

(ANTHONY BUCKLEY)

**Stiebel's flowered poult with fantail godet and a transparent coatee in black marquisette**

PRIVATE entertaining, charity balls, official functions are transforming the evening scene. Long dresses are being ordered again—as far as coupons allow—and elegance returns to fashion as the sumptuous new British silks come off the loom. The designers all include a number of glamorous evening frocks in their collections. Some, alas, are not for this country as the materials are earmarked for export, but each day adds something new and exciting. A great deal of entertaining will be done next year when their Majesties visit South Africa. Fabrics are being specially designed now for the royal party, and a great impetus to the export trade will result. The dress houses are humming with activity, for dresses are being ordered ahead for the many festivities in connection with the tour. Dress houses and fabric manufacturers are busy co-operating for the big Government Exhibition to be held at the Victoria and Albert Museum in London in the autumn, when brand-new styles will be launched and a great display of the new British rayons for evening staged.

Evening styles divide roughly into two. There are the ball dresses with wide picture skirts, accordion-pleated skirts, and the tight draped sheaths for dining and theatre-going. Poult, taffeta, velvet, tulle, slipper satin and lace make the picture dresses. Limp heavy chiffons and georgettes appear for some pleated dresses reminiscent of the days of the skirt-dancer. In a category all on their own are the sleek tight sheaths of frocks with narrow straps and a naked décolletage, frocks that are the height of sophistication intended for the grandest of parties. For them, skirts are slender, with drapery or godets one side, draped and hitched up in the centre reminiscent of a hobble, or have a fantail back as Stiebel shows them.

A wonderful heavy satin-backed crêpe and a romaine have been woven for the army of dinner frocks, as well as moss crêpes in several weights. Black and dark subtle shades lead, with brilliant flowered crêpes and velvet in second place; while a number are shown in fine wool georgettes, gossamer wool chiffon, both plain and printed, and fine, fine faceloth.

Dinner dresses glitter somewhere. Tops are starred with

(BARON)

**Black folds of georgette frame the low V; black and white flowered poult makes the wide skirt**

(PETER CLARKE)

**Dove-grey tulle—a great dream of a skirt over a poult petticoat, a tight ruched bodice, a naked décolletage. Solita Modes**

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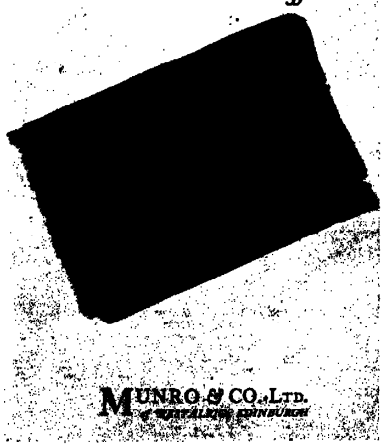

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sequins or gold studding; flowers on the prints are outlined with sequins on the bodice, or the sleeves, or both; epaulets are padded and studded with gold flowers or braided and beaded; heart and wedge décolletages are outlined with a Greek key pattern in sequins; while hemlines and godets are pin-dotted with gold and wing sleeves are frosted with silver beads. The dresses have long tight sleeves, often set in to deep armholes giving them the appearance of wings; three-quarter, ruched sleeves, or minute sleeves much folded and padded. Some sleeves are so brief as to be mere epaulets or fichus. Décolletages are very low—V's slashed almost to the waist, heart-shaped, wedge and square in the 18th-century tradition. To make up, backs are covered right up to the nape.

THE dresses are elegant, easy to wear, mostly ankle-length with a few shorter still, almost mid-calf lenght. All houses show them. There is the sleek, black rayon jersey of Selita, draped and folded on the skirt, the bodice a mass of soft folds, and with plain tight sleeves; a chalk-white crêpe at Rima with the skirt so draped across in front as to be almost a hobble, held from the point of the décolleté to the hip by a snake of green and silver strass embroidery. Rima's dove-grey georgette has a wide, gored skirt that barely skims the floor; the hem and pyramid godets rising from it are lightly spangled with silver. The demure top has tiny folded sleeves. A black chiffon dance frock at this house has its wide, accordion-pleated skirt set into a sweater bodice horizontally pin-tucked all over. It is worn under a magnificent, full-length, black wool coat, the top and the immense sleeves of which are starred with silver sequins. The wide gored skirt is lined with rustling taffeta. Dereta show a charming flowered crêpe, the brilliant gay flowers outlined here and there with sparkling sequins on the top; the slender dress has long sleeves and a pouched back. A white crêpe dress has short sleeves and a band of silver sequins streaking down the front and edging the sleeves. This is a dress that could be equally successful at a small or large party.

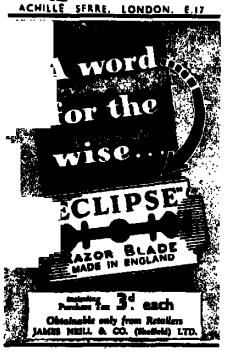
Showing an adaptation of the Empire style without the pleat. Hair is pinned high in upsweep half curls and the crown dressing combed into a scroll.
Raymond.

Classical style starring the new buffalo tail plait which gathers and holds the circular cluster of large ring curls dressed high on the crown of the head

The amount of grey shown for evening is outstanding—dove grey, a steely grey that is almost blue, a grey that is the colour of mercury. Black leads for dinner dresses and for some of the very grandest ball dresses in faille. The flowered satins are magnificent, some stiff, some soft with the flowers large and spaced out reminiscent of the fabrics of the eighteenth century. These flower patterns are screen-printed by the new processes and have come in for a lot of praise from overseas buyers. In the way the flowers are stylised and grouped formally they are reminiscent of the Spitalfields brocades and the old chintzes. Very fine chiffon and heavy georgettes have the right limpness for the pleated frocks.

The first post-war pure silk crêpes are appearing for the autumn.

P. JOYCE REYNOLDS.

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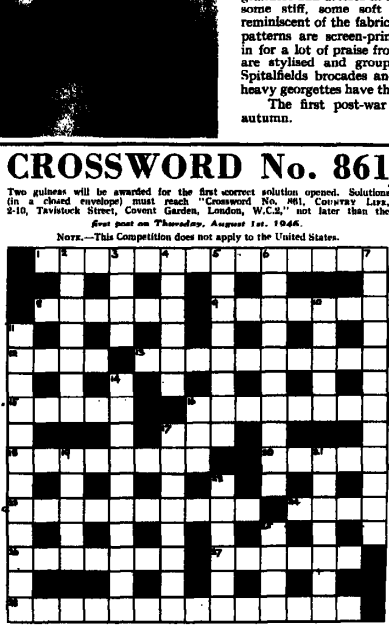
# CROSSWORD No. 861

Two guineas will be awarded for the first correct solution opened. Solutions (in a closed envelope) must reach "Crossword No. 861, COUNTRY LIFE, 2-10, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2," not later than the *first post on Thursday, August 1st, 1946.*

NOTE.—This Competition does not apply to the United States.



*Name* .....

*Address* .....

**SOLUTION TO No. 860.** *The winner of this Crossword, the clues of which appeared in the issue of July 19, will be announced next week.*

ACROSS.—5, Church; 8, California; 9, Nugget; 10, Deplorable; 13, Hatch; 16, Actuate; 17, Heels; 18, Sense; 19 and 30, Sunni; 21, Rouse; 22, Owlet; 23, Sparrow; 25, Calls; 28, Propellers; 31, Excess; 32, References; 33, Sonnet. DOWN.—1 and 2, Paper mills; 3 and 4, Door knob; 5, Cane; 6, Right angle; 7, Hatchments; 11, Acton; 12; Lea; 13, Bestow; 14, Characters; 15, Republican; 16, Assess; 20, Syrup; 24, Air; 26 and 27, Plane trees; 28, Pert; 29, Oak; 30, Ears.

ACROSS

1. Kind of boy whose report reads: "Must learn to concentrate" (14)
8. "Music that gentler on the —— lies, Than tir'd eyelids upon tir'd eyes." —*Tennyson* (6)
9. Incompetent? On the contrary, wholly remarkable (7)
12. Italian enclave in Manchester (4)
13. They need sense to grasp the correct way to go (10)
15. This law concerns females exclusively (5)
16. It seems about to give Sicily a kick (8)
17. An iron father (3)
18. A masterly operation (8)
20. It may be beaten but is not necessarily lined (5)
23. M.P.s do this after the recess (10)
24. What it may bring to the eye of the coupon-less (4)
26. Make a clergyman win in something like a bucket (7)
27. The Don's countenance (6)
28. Possibly the opposite of a complicated concern (8, 8)

DOWN

2. Washington got it from Rome (7)
3. Thanks to the Navy it is never dry (4)
4. How to entangle one's parent (6)
5. He can take his place both before and on the stand (6)
6. They bid the insects listen (10)
7. Headgear for stealthy men (12)
10. Hardly keen-eyed (5)
11. They show effects of shock (12)
14. Staffordshire town providing an entry to one in Lancashire (10)
16. Not fresh food for thought (3)
17. Clown who was half in earnest (8)
19. Scrub out (8)
21. Would-be explorers should be told that they are quite straight-forward (7)
22. "It would be port if it could."—*Richard Bentley* (6)
25. Put on for the river (4)

The winner of Crossword No. 859 is

Mrs. Buckley,
Presses House,
Nunton,
Salisbury.

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JENNERS

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*Relax, pretty one . . .*

It's holiday time, and you have nothing in the world to do but laze and be your charming self and maybe to choose from the hearts that lie at your feet. Homage will be yours wherever you go, for you have Yardley beauty-things and skill in using them And what man can resist loveliness so subtle that it seems to have no need of art ?

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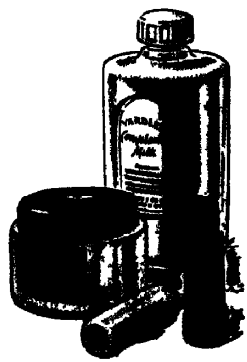
*Refills 2/6 Skin Food 6/6*
*Sorry, no post orders!*

Yardley
33 OLD BOND STREET
LONDON